

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

Contents :

REVIEW OF THE WEEK—	PAGE	Miscellaneous	1184	Public Spirit in France	1189	Outram and Havelock's Persian Campaign	1194
State of Trade	1178	Postscript	1185	Smithfield Club Cattle-Show	1189	New Editions and Reprints	1195
Imperial Parliament	1179	PUBLIC AFFAIRS—		The Siamese Embassy	1190	THE ARTS—	
The Indian Revolt	1180	Free Trade in Gold	1186	LITERATURE—		Professor Wiljalba Frikell	1195
Accidents and Sudden Deaths	1181	Transmission of an Army to India	1186	Summary	1191	THE GAZETTE	1195
America	1181	Indian Debate	1187	Montaigne the Essayist	1191	COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—	
The Orient	1181	The New Religious Liberty Clause	1187	New Novels	1192	City Intelligence, Markets, &c.	1196
Continental Notes	1181	A Word for the Thief Interest	1188	Northern Travel	1193		
Our Civilization	1182	The Oaths Bill Debate	1188	The Adventures of two Russian Princesses	1193		
Gatherings from the Law and Police Courts	1183	Lord Palmerston's Citizens at Naples	1188				
Naval and Military	1184						

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1857.

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Review of the Week.

THE news brought by the extra mail from Calcutta, while it increases our anxiety for the fate of the defenders of Lucknow, is cheering as to the general state of affairs in India. The whole of the country was rapidly settling into quiet, with the exceptions of Rohilcund and Oude, which will be the centres of the great operations preparing for the final overthrow of the mutineers. By the Bombay mail we learn that Sir COLIN CAMPBELL reached Cawnpore on the 3rd or 4th of November, from whence he was to march to the relief of Lucknow, with a force of five thousand infantry and eight hundred cavalry; whether this number includes two thousand men under Colonel GREATHED, who reached Cawnpore on the 26th of October, is not quite clear. The number of men in Lucknow, under Generals OUTRAM and HAVELOCK, is supposed to be about fourteen hundred. At all events, it may be reckoned that between six and seven thousand men are being rapidly brought to bear upon the enemy, and if the brave garrison can only wait till their friends can come within bayonet reach of the seventy thousand miscreants surrounding the place, we shall have no further cause for anxiety. The movements of the second column, under Brigadier SHOWERS, which left Delhi in pursuit of the flying rebels, and about which the late intelligence left us in doubt, have been entirely successful. After several engagements with the enemy, he had taken possession of Jhujur, captured five lakhs of treasure, and taken prisoner the Nawab, who surrendered. The one dark spot in the picture is the want of positive intelligence as to the actual state of things in Lucknow; one account states that two convoys of provisions had been successfully got into the place; another, that its defenders were running short of food, and had commenced to slay the gun-bullocks. The communication from Cawnpore is reported to be still open to within three miles of Lucknow.

The most important meeting of the week has been that held on Wednesday evening at the London Tavern, on the subject of Indian Reform. The necessity for an enlightened single Government was the leading argument advanced by the speakers, and the India Company received some rough handling. One of the most interesting speakers was Mr. MEADE, late editor of the *Friend of India*; he looked upon the Company as wholly incompetent to

govern India, or to develop its resources. His concluding words—"The people of England have in the hollow of their hands the destiny of 200,000,000 people, in the name of God do them justice"—were received with loud cheers.

The brave and true-hearted Bishop of LONDON has made a practical endeavour to minister to the spiritual wants of the desolate poor. His first essay is memorable, from its complete success. 'The common people heard him gladly.' The large church of St. Matthew, Bethnal-green, was filled to overflowing with a crowd of labourers, whose demeanour was such as to satisfy any who may have been in doubt, that it only needs a frank invitation and an honest welcome from the disciples of Jesus Christ, to make the pastoral labour entirely successful, which it never can be while it is administered coldly and ceremoniously.

The monetary crisis in Hamburg is the most important topic of the week's foreign news. Between forty and fifty firms have stopped payment within a few days. The greatest efforts are being made to afford assistance to those requiring it, and the Municipality has determined to grant 15,000,000 of marks to the Discount Bank for the purpose.

Monetary difficulties of not so blameless a kind had led to the arrest in Rome of that elegant and generous dilettante the Marquis CAMPANA, head of an official Deposit Bank and pawnbroking establishment, called a Monte di Pietà. His accounts exhibit the modest deficiency of a million and a half sterling, the loss of which would plunge thousands into misery if it were not made good by his *virtù*, or by the State.

Two items of political news are interesting, one of them particularly. Lord PALMERSTON has made a statement in the House of Commons which confirms the dark reports that have so long been current concerning the treatment inflicted upon the English engineers in Naples, which he described as only fitting a barbarous nation. But in the present state of the case, he says, nothing could be done by this country but to see that the men are tried without unnecessary delay (*after five months' imprisonment*), and that they are provided with the best legal assistance. So that an opportunity is yet wanting to bring the Neapolitan barbarian to account. The second item is, that the Pope's Nuncio is to stand as sponsor for the interesting little fathermore stranger in the palace at Madrid.

India has figured in Parliament, in reference to special cases. The QUEEN has conferred baronetcies on Sir HENRY HAVELOCK and Sir ARCHDALE

WILSON, and the House of Commons was invited by the Crown to give a pension of a thousand a year for life to Sir HENRY; the East India Company, it is understood, making the like allowance to Sir ARCHDALE. Probably it will give more, especially as Members on both sides of the House have protested against the smallness of the allowance to Sir HENRY—given "for so short a time," said Mr. WHITE, the member for Plymouth. The feeling is, that Sir HENRY, not being highly connected, has not been highly treated by the Government. At the last moment, however, Lord PALMERSTON consented to grant a pension for two lives.

The chief of the other questions is the old dispute about the despatch of troops by the Overland route. The Opposition has spoiled its case, by telling a silly story—how Mr. VERNON SMITH applied to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company to suggest some arrangement for sending troops at a time when the troops were already going with the knowledge of Government; and the tale turns out to have been a mere fabrication. The excuses of Government—that there was no sufficient transport on the other side, that the route is unhealthy in the summer, that troops must have gone in light marching order, and so forth—are insufficient. Perhaps there are other reasons, unstated; but certain it is that the defence of the Government is as weak as the attack of the Opposition.

The principal business before the two Houses in reference to banking matters has been reduced to the single object of passing the Indemnity Bill—for Ministers have observed the agreement with Mr. DISRAELI, last Friday, that they should separate the question of the Indemnity Bill from the ulterior question of the Select Committee on the Bank Act and the whole subject of the crisis. The debates upon the point during the week have been slight and not very interesting—both Houses reserving their strength for a grand display last night, the Lords on the third reading of the Bill, the Commons on Mr. DISRAELI's amendment in favour of 'immediate legislation' respecting the Bank Charter Act. There was an understanding on all sides that the Indemnity Bill should pass almost as a matter of course, so that there has been no real contest in regard to that essential measure.

When collateral subjects have been brought up, both Houses have shown a decided disposition to set them aside, as in the case of Mr. HEADLAM's motion, advocating limited liability for joint-stock banks as safer than the delusive rule of unlimited liability. Powerful reasons were shown against the

application of the principle to banks; which are not, properly speaking, trading bodies, but bodies holding the custody of other people's property, and therefore demanding some very strong pledge on the part of the persons managing or owning the banks. The question, however, was not settled; Mr. THOMAS HANKEY tried to get the opinion of the House by putting Mr. HEADAM's motion in a more simple form; but both motions were negatived; and we interpret that result, less as a negative on the merits, than as a refusal to entertain a section of a much larger subject which stands over till after Christmas.

The Jew Bill has been reintroduced, not by Lord PALMERSTON, its author, but by Lord JOHN RUSSELL; for the Bill is the same as that which Lord PALMERSTON brought forward, with rather a peculiar alteration. Lord JOHN RUSSELL has restored to the oath as amended by Lord PALMERSTON, "This I declare on the true faith of a Christian!" a separate clause providing that Jews shall not be compelled to utter those words. Lord JOHN admits them on the score of their 'prescriptive value.' It is a concession intended to conciliate wayward opponents, but the Opposition still relies on the House of Lords. Mr. DUNCOMBE, whom we rejoice to see once more in action, promises to bring the dispute to its last issue upon the re-assembling of Parliament after the Christmas holidays.

Another religious point is handled in Lord SHAFTESBURY's Bill to amend the Act to secure liberty of religious worship; this new amendment being intended to grapple with the incumbent of St. Michael's parish and similar recusants, who will not permit services to be performed by any but themselves or curates within their parishes. Lord SHAFTESBURY's Bill would deprive the incumbent of any such power, even if he has it by the present law, unless he is sustained in it by the Bishop of his diocese.

There seems to be no doubt that Mr. MILNER GIBSON will be returned for Ashton in the room of Mr. CHARLES HINDLEY. Thus, by degrees, we are getting back our best men. What constituency will now honour itself by bringing CORDEN back into the House of Commons? Several have been engaged in electing members, but they are sending us up either unknown men, or men that have not achieved any repute. A BAGSHAW for Hurwich, a CRUM-OWING for Paisley, and a WARD HUNT for Northamptonshire, in the place of WARBURTON, HASTIE, and AUGUSTUS STAFFORD. And the return of Mr. DEEDS, in the place of Sir EDWARD DRENE, for East Kent, gives us one exceedingly respectable Conservative for another exceedingly respectable Conservative.

Mr. JAMES EDWARD STEPHENS, late Manager of the London and Eastern Banking Corporation, has furnished a strong exemplification of the truth which is in the old saying that 'there's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip.' Gentlemen in his unpleasant position, with very natural dislikes to the mode of doing things at the Bankruptcy Court in London, have preferred the milder treatment of their disorders prescribed by the practice of the similar Court at Edinburgh. A certain duration of residence over the border was all that was requisite to ensure them the benefits of the mild treatment desired—and so desirable. In the Bankruptcy Court of London they have latterly taken to use gentlemen connected with banks so very roughly—really as if they were criminals! What was more natural, then, for Mr. JAMES EDWARD STEPHENS to decline to expose himself to such odious treatment? He went to Scotland, where they conduct such business as his in a much less barbarous fashion: but—'l'homme propose, Dieu dispose!'—poor man, instead of finding peace and quietness, he walked right into a hornet's nest of savage and stinging lawyers. Mr. STEPHENS is a model and exemplar of a man who can do great things without means—that is, with only a little worthless stationery—call it 'paper-currency.' His plan is so simple, a schoolboy can understand it. He is manager of a Banking Corporation; a friend of his, Colonel WAUGH, has an estate with exceedingly valuable clay-works upon it, but no money to work them with; he introduces the Colonel to the Directors of the Bank, who, on the strength of the introduction, help him to all the 'accommodation' he requires; the gallant friend offers him half a share in the clay-works, and he accepts it. He has nothing to find but advice and assistance in making a profit out of the clay; the bank being at hand to find the money. Soon after,

he becomes sole partner in the firm of LUTTEY and Co., to carry on the whitening business of BARWISE and Co., Piccadilly, London; again a little while, and he is partner with Mr. JAMES BLACK, as proprietors of LITT'S Wharf, having 'a cash credit with security' with the bank, overdrawn to the extent of 23,000*l.*; a few months later, and he 'became a member of the copartnership' of MASTER and Co., upholsterers of Fifth-street, Soho, Mr. JAMES BLACK being the only other partner; at that time, Mr. JOHN CARNAC MORRIS was chairman of the Bank Board of Directors; on the 26th of September, 1856, 2800*l.* were taken from the bank on account of the upholstery business—the proceeding was not formally sanctioned till the 29th, the day after which, Mr. JAMES EDWARD STEPHENS became the son-in-law of Mr. JOHN CARNAC MORRIS. That is the way it was all done—and the way in which twice as much more might have been done, had time served; all without capital, and by means so simple!

But, after all, there are yet simpler means of trading upon nothing, called in the City 'hypothecating.' You get together a cargo of goods on credit—you want no capital, you only want credit; you ship the goods to India, say; then you take the bills of lading to one of the great Indian Banks, and get an advance of two-thirds of the value of the goods, enabling you to pay your way and to keep up your credit, and get you new cargoes to 'hypothecate.' Without a penny to start with, you may trade to the extent of a million a year, and make a good thing of it, if you have wonderful luck; if you have not, you will probably find yourself in the Bankruptcy Court, in the position of Messrs. STYERS, WALKER, and STYERS, experts in the science of hypothecation, but floored—as so many great gamblers have been floored—by want of luck. Other instances of the excellent working of our credit system have been ventilated during the week. Mr. MOON, bookseller of Regent-street, a man with 'too many irons in the fire,' has found himself in the Bankruptcy Court in consequence of the large amount of patronage extended to him by the aristocracy of his country for Opera-boxes—on credit; and he had also a 'restaurant,'—on speculation.

The Bramhill murder has been disposed of, a verdict of acquittal being returned by the jury. The crowd who were in court received this verdict with loud applause—why? Looking carefully over the whole evidence, the anxiety of the prisoner as to the words that were to fall from the lips of the foreman seems to us much more reasonable.

The Leviathan, fog-enveloped, is believed to be where she was when last seen—that is, some 104 feet nearer to the river.

A sudden shock has been administered to public spirit in France by the temporary confiscation of the most powerful daily organ of independent opinion—*La Presse*. It is amazing to Englishmen, accustomed to a free press as to the air they breathe, that any Government sustained by five hundred thousand bayonets, and as many functionaries, should be frightened into fury by a newspaper article! Lord PALMERSTON might whisper into the ear of M. BILLAULT, "that public spirit is a steam-engine, only dangerous when the driver sits upon the safety-valve, and that compression from above means violence from below. The press, like a naughty child, should always be left to cry itself to sleep. Perfect liberty is perfect impotence, and the irresponsibility of Government is only possible and practicable in a country where every citizen is at liberty to write himself down a—statesman."

But these maxims have yet to be learned in France. It is a curious circumstance that on the day after the suspension of *La Presse*, M. EMILE DE GIRARDIN (it is impossible to mistake the hand), began a series of articles in the *Courrier de Paris*, recommending a 'constitutional opposition' and the reconciliation of the Empire with liberty. Is this a false alarm to the Empire, or a pitfall to the Liberal party? Probably both. At any rate, the articles are written with all M. DE GIRARDIN's force and dexterity of style, and have already driven two or three of the best writers of the *Courrier de Paris* into resignation, and attracted the curiosity of Europe. Meanwhile, we are not surprised to hear that the modest dignity of M. PEYRAT's life and home is besieged by admiring letters and deputations, and that he will probably be carried into the Corps Législatif by the 'national will,' as it is represented in the metropolis of France. A wiser demonstration in favour of liberty it would be impossible to devise, and quite as impossible to embody a principle in a nobler representative than ALPHONSE PEYRAT.

STATE OF TRADE.

Trade is beginning to recover itself, and some of the mills in the manufacturing districts which had closed have reopened, while others which have been working short time have returned to full time. Since the opening of the soup kitchens at Preston, five hundred and thirty gallons of soup have been distributed daily. The supply is not equal to the demand, and preparations are being made for increasing the quantity. The overlookers of the various factories formed a relief fund about six months ago, and the sum in hand has been very opportune during the distress. Upwards of 80*l.* have been distributed among the needy members of that body. In Blackburn, there are numerous signs of amendment. At the yarn-market held on Wednesday week there was great animation, and a considerable amount of business was done. In some of the other northern towns there is also an improved feeling; but at Manchester, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Nottingham, Leicester, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, &c., trade continued during the whole of last week in a very depressed condition.

A serious disagreement has broken out between the colliery proprietors and ironmasters of the Aberdare Mineral district and the colliers and workmen, and has led to a strike of some thousand ironmen. The colliers proceeded to acts of intimidation, and a requisition was sent for the military. The origin of the dispute is a desire on the part of the employers to reduce the wages of their men, owing to the slackness of their trade. The amount of the proposed reduction was twenty per cent. at the ironworks, and from ten to fifteen per cent. at the collieries. The ordinary rate of wages is from twenty-six to thirty shillings a week. Daily meetings of the workmen were held on the mountain last week, at which the men resolved—"1. Not to accept any reduction of wages. 2. That the men employed to look after the pumping and ventilation and other underground work in the pits should not be allowed to work. 3. Not to pay the various shopkeepers and tradesmen the debts owing for provisions had by the colliers during the past month." The credit system prevails greatly among the workpeople in that district, the payments being made monthly or fortnightly, as the men receive their wages. It appears that the colliers and ironmen are habitually very improvident, and, as they have laid aside no fund for any such crisis as the present, there is great distress. A few days ago, the colliers vented their indignation against the masters in a very singular way. They assembled before the houses of their employers, and ran races in a state of entire nakedness. A far more serious proceeding than this, however, has been taken. The engineers have been forced, under threats of violence, to abandon the pumps, so that the pits are flooded, and it will take some months to undo the mischief. The colliers at some of the other Welsh works have struck, for the same reason, as in the case of the Aberdare men; but at Merthyr the men have consented to a reduction of twenty per cent.

A singular story with regard to the suspension of the Bank Charter Act is related in the *Times* City Article in Wednesday's paper:—"On the morning of the 12th of November, when the alarm was at its height, a sudden demand was made by a leading discount house for accommodation to the extent of half a million. The moment an affirmative answer was obtained from the governors, the requirement was raised from 500,000*l.* to 700,000*l.*; and as soon as this amended request was granted, it was then augmented to 900,000*l.* That day was complied with. Meanwhile, however, the partner by whom these applications were made is understood to have proceeded to a leading banker among the private firms in Lombard-street, and to have informed him that he had been to the Bank of England in vain, and could get no advances whatever. Of course, this was calculated to add greatly to the distrust already prevalent, and its effects would have spread much further had not the banker subsequently ascertained that the representation had been entirely erroneous. In the afternoon, the Government letter came down to the City, and thus the matter terminated; but, as it was generally alleged that the discount house in question had had an interview with the Government shortly before the measure was announced, a very general impression was created that the proceeding adopted had not been altogether unpremeditated." This is in direct contradiction of statements made in the House of Commons by Government.

The Western Bank of Scotland has finally abandoned all idea of resuming business. The result of the investigation into the affairs of the City of Glasgow Bank by the independent committee appointed by the shareholders has been published. The capital is found to be intact, all but 75,000*l.*, and the greater part of the deficiency may be made good by a slight improvement in the value of the securities and the recoveries from doubtful debts. The bank is expected to resume.

The failures this week comprise—Messrs. Sewells and Neck, an old and respectable house in the Norwegian trade, with liabilities estimated at 500,000*l.*; Messrs. Albert Pelly and Co., also in the Norwegian trade (liabilities, 170,000*l.*); Messrs. Krell and Cohn, a German firm, with moderate liabilities; Messrs. Hadland and Co., a very old firm in the Manchester trade, with liabilities amounting to about 40,000*l.*; and Messrs. Liebenstein, a German house (liabilities supposed to amount to about 80,000*l.*).

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, December 7th.

OBSCENE BOOKS, &c., BILL.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord CAMPBELL moved for a return of the warrants, granted under the Act of Parliament of last session, for the prevention of the sale of obscene publications, and also of the steps that had been taken under the said act.—The returns were ordered.

CHURCH-RATES.

The Earl of MALMESBURY asked whether it was the intention of the Government to bring forward, during the ensuing session, any measure respecting church-rates.—Earl GRANVILLE said it would entirely depend upon circumstances whether any such measure would be introduced.

ANSWER TO THE ADDRESS.

Earl ST. GERMAN brought up her Majesty's answer to the address of their Lordships, in answer to the Royal Speech on Thursday week. It was couched in the usual terms.

LORD CANNING.

Earl GRANVILLE corrected some statements which had been made on the first night of the session by Lord Derby with respect to the Governor-General of India, General Hayslee, and the rewarding of a Sepoy who had distinguished himself by brave and faithful conduct. The man had been promoted with the express sanction of Lord Canning, and not reprimanded, as Lord Derby had supposed.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK.

Earl GRANVILLE brought up a message from the Crown, recommending to the House to concur in enabling her Majesty to make provision for securing to Sir Henry Havelock a pension of 1000*l.* a year for life.—A similar message was laid before the House of Commons by Lord PALMERSTON.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE INDIAN PRESS.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved for a copy of the Arms Act, lately passed by the Legislative Council of India; also a return of all native and European newspapers licensed under the Act of the Legislative Council, passed on the 13th of last June; and also copies of all letters of warning addressed to the printers of any such native and European newspapers respectively, and of all revocations of the licences of any of such newspapers, and of all correspondence relating to the restitution thereof. The Arms Act provides that Europeans in India are to apply to the magistrates (who are often natives) for leave to possess arms. This, observed Lord Ellenborough, is an infringement of the rights of Englishmen, and he thought all Englishmen in India should be armed for the sake of self-protection. In fact, they should be compelled to bear arms, so that they might form a large militia. The act had excited great disgust among our countrymen in the East. His Lordship then called attention to the provisions of the measure passed in reference to the press in India, and contended that the Governor-General might have subjected the press to a censorship, instead of having recourse to the measures he had adopted. Under the provisions of the law, the Governor-General might prohibit the publication of any book, pamphlet, or newspaper, wherever published, so that, after an interdict had been put upon a paper, the party receiving it would be liable to fine and imprisonment—the consequence being, that a person receiving an English newspaper containing strictures upon the Government came within the provisions of the act. On the other hand, the papers might publish the fullest military details, thus putting the enemy in possession of important facts, the knowledge of which might be used against us. A great deal of mischief had been effected by the publication in the papers of letters from officers whose feelings had been embittered by witnessing the atrocities of the revolt. Great as had been the crimes of the Sepoys, due discrimination should be observed in their punishment, and we should avoid acting on a principle of wild revenge. In the day of victory, if it should come, we ought to assume an attitude which should secure the sympathy and good-will of the people of India.—Earl GRANVILLE and the Duke of ARGYLL defended the course pursued by Lord Canning; Earl GREY and the Marquis of CLANRICARDE also took a favourable view of the conduct of the Indian Government, and deprecated discussion on the subject at that period; while the Earl of MALMESBURY and Lord DERBY expressed their disapprobation of the Governor-General.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, the answer to the Address was brought up by Lord CASTLEBROSSE.

CAPTAIN FREEMANTLE AND THE OFFICERS OF THE JUNO.

Mr. WARREN inquired of the First Lord of the Admiralty whether his attention had been called to a recent naval court-martial held on an officer of her Majesty's ship Juno; and whether any steps are contemplated by the Government in respect thereto.—Sir CHARLES WOOD said he greatly regretted that a distinguished officer, who had been thirty years in the service, had placed himself in a position to incur the censure of the Board of Admiralty. Still, he thought Captain Freemantle had only acted out of a sense of duty. If the Juno had remained in commission for any time longer, the Board of Admiralty would have superseded Captain Free-

mantle, but, as the vessel at the time of these courts-martial was under orders to be paid off, it was considered that it would be for the advantage of the public service if no steps were then taken for his removal from the service. (Hear, hear.)

THE 69TH REGIMENT.

Mr. SCOTT asked on what ground the 69th Regiment, being quartered at Plymouth, was removed from Plymouth to Portsmouth by rail to embark there, in order to return by sea to Plymouth, before departing for the East Indies.—Sir JOHN RAMSDEN said that the hon. gentleman must have been misinformed as to the facts of the case regarding the embarkation of this regiment. Three ships were taken up by the East India Company to convey the regiment to Alexandria. Two of those ships took the troops on board at Plymouth direct, but the third was a mail steamer, and under the terms of her contract was only allowed to embark at Portsmouth. Accordingly, a detachment was sent to Portsmouth and embarked there.

GUANO.—THE KOORIA MOORIA ISLANDS.

In reply to Mr. CAIRD, Mr. LABOUCHERE said that, when the subject was laid before the House, he had stated that her Majesty's Government were determined to afford assistance to the attempts that were being made to obtain guano in the Kooria Mooria Islands, and that a ship of war should be sent for the protection of persons engaged in the trade. That had been done, and a great number of English merchants had gone there. The Bombay Government had prevented the engagement of any labourers from Aden, and, as soon as this was brought to his knowledge, he had called the attention of the Indian Government to the fact, expressing his hope that, if there were no valid reasons for this prohibition, it would not be continued. To that communication he had not yet received any reply.

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS AT NAPLES.

In answer to Mr. MONCKTON MILNES Lord PALMERSTON made a statement regarding the two engineers taken on board the steamer Cagliari, somewhat modifying that which he had made on the previous Friday. He was sorry to say that, by accounts he had received on Sunday from the acting British consul, it appeared that, although the engineers had not been subjected to actual torture, they had been confined in a dark, damp, gloomy cell; that they had complained of their food; and that one of them, in a fit of despondency, had made an attempt upon his life. There had been also an endeavour to falsify the evidence against them. There is nothing in their present treatment materially to complain of; but the Government are expecting further accounts.

BANK OF ENGLAND INDEMNITY BILL.

On the order for the second reading of this bill, Mr. GLADSTONE objected to the wording of the first clause, which indemnified the Bank for sums of which Parliament knows nothing. He asked for explanations respecting the profits on the issues already made—whether they are to go to the Bank of England or to the Government; how they are to be computed; whether they are to be profits of the issues or of the discounts; and, lastly, whether the profits are to be calculated on the amount of the issues made to the issue department of the Bank, or on that portion only which will go to the public.—Sir H. WILLOUGHBY asked for further information with respect to the necessity for suspending the law.—Mr. CAYLEY criticized the monetary system of the country, which he considered impracticable without periodical collapses.—Mr. CONINGHAM regretted that the Government had not determined on abrogating the act of 1844 altogether.—Mr. MALLES cordially approved of the bill.—Mr. CROSSLY, Mr. R. PHILLIPS, and Mr. NEWDEGATE spoke in favour of the Bank of England, but suggested the necessity of introducing such reforms into the law as would simplify financial matters and avoid panics.—Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. KIRK spoke against the act of 1844, which had not prevented undue speculation and overtrading, and which errs in applying an inflexible rule to that fluctuating thing, the currency.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in reply to Sir H. Willoughby, said he had no knowledge of any combination or conspiracy to intimidate or influence the Bank of England, and he did not believe any such conspiracy existed. With respect to the application of the profits upon the issue of notes under the Government letter, he said that, as the matter was still in progress, he had not thought it his duty to come to any definite conclusion. There was no depreciation of the currency, in the ordinary sense of the term, by the issue of the extra 2,000,000*l.*

Mr. SPOONER, in defending his theory, denied that he was an advocate of a large issue of unconvertible paper.—After a few words from Mr. INGHAM (who made some suggestions with respect to the issue of notes), the bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at a quarter-past eight.

Tuesday, December 8th.

GENERAL HAVELOCK'S ANNUITY.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Clerk having read the Queen's Message with respect to General Havelock's annuity, Earl GRANVILLE moved that the House should assure her Majesty that they cheerfully concur in the proposition to make a provision of 1000*l.* a year for the General, and are prepared to adopt the necessary mea-

sures.—Lord DERBY seconded the motion, and passed a high eulogium on General Wilson and on Colonel Inglis, who commands the garrison at Lucknow. He hoped justice would be done to the distinguished gallantry of the latter officer.—Earl GRANVILLE said that, although it is gratifying to grant honours on the spot, it is necessary to have complete official information before doing so.—The motion was agreed to.—The Duke of CAMBRIDGE entered the House at a later period in the evening, and spoke to the same effect as Lord GRANVILLE about granting honours to Colonel Inglis; on which Lord DERBY emphatically disavowed any desire to dictate to the Government.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

On the order of the day for the second reading of this bill, Lord SHAFTESBURY said he did not intend to press the second reading at that time, representations having been made to him that the bunch of Bishops are opposed to the measure. The object of the bill is to enable the Church of England to perform religious services in unconsecrated buildings; and the measure arises out of the stop which has been put to the Sunday services, in connexion with the Established Church, which have been held at Exeter Hall. Lord Shaftesbury felt some doubt as to the legality of that interference; but he thought it better to amend the law so as to establish clearly the right of the Church to hold such services.—Lord DERBY expressed his satisfaction that the bill had been postponed, as he disapproved of the principle involved in it.—The Bishop of St. DAVID's sympathized heartily with the effort to extend the influence of the Church among the working-classes, but doubted whether those classes had attended Exeter Hall in such numbers as had been supposed, and hoped the object in view might be attained without any important innovation on the parochial system.—The Bishop of LONDON supported the principle of the bill, and doubted whether the incumbent who had prohibited the Exeter Hall services had acted with a sound discretion, though doubtless he had acted conscientiously. Even when Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's are thrown open, there will be need of further church accommodation in London. It was impossible to believe that it was ever the intention of the law to give an incumbent a monopoly which should stand in the way of the teaching of the Gospel.—The Bishop of RIPON (who had preached at one of the Exeter Hall services) asserted that the congregation was mainly composed of the working classes.—Lord CAMPBELL spoke in favour of the bill; and Lord PASNUR added his testimony to that of the Bishop of Ripon with respect to the attendance in large numbers of the working orders.—The Earl of SHAFTESBURY read a letter addressed to him, setting forth that an individual, whose name he would not mention, had disapproved of the services in Exeter-hall, until he heard from a manufacturer that seventy of his men attended those services; who never had, he thought, gone to church before. (Hear, hear.) He moved the adjournment of the debate until the third sitting after the reassembling of Parliament in February.—The debate was accordingly adjourned to the 8th of February.

THE TRANSPORT SHIP AUSTRIA.

The EARL of HARDWICKE moved for a copy of the contract made with the owners of the steam-ship Austria for the conveyance of the 94th Regiment to India. That vessel had sailed for India with the troops, and put back; it had sailed again with the troops, and put back; and the regiment was now under orders to proceed to India overland. The vessel did not belong to an English company.—Lord PASNUR agreed to give the correspondence, but remarked that the vessels for the conveyance of the troops to India are taken up by the directors of the East India Company, and not by the Government. He begged to add, in justice to the East India Company, that, although they had taken up vessels for the conveyance of 50,000 troops to India, scarcely any casualty had occurred, except in the case of the Austria.

The House adjourned about eight o'clock.

AUSTRALIAN MAIL SERVICE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, in reply to Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BARING stated that the accident to the mail-ship Emeu will involve the loss of two mails, the outward mail from Suez to Sydney, and the January mail home. With regard to future arrangements, the Board of Admiralty has directed attention to the manner in which the service has been conducted, and the company has undertaken that next summer there shall be four vessels in the service between Suez and Sydney, and that the Emeu shall be employed as a spare vessel.

INDIA.

In reply to Mr. VANSITTART, who inquired whether, during the tenure of the Governor-Generalship of India by the Marquis of Dalhousie, any despatch was sent by the supreme Government or the Commander-in-Chief in India to the Court of Directors, or to the President of the Board of Control for an increase of European troops, in consequence of the extension of the British territories in the East, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that no special communications take place between the President of the Board of Control and the Governor-General of India. All such communications are made to the Board of Directors; and he thought the best course for his hon. friend would be to move for the despatch, if any such existed.—In reply to Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, Mr. VERNON

SMITH stated that it was not intended to include in the papers on Indian affairs, promised in her Majesty's Speech, a memorial from Calcutta praying for the recall of the Governor-General, that memorial not having been transmitted through the usual channel.

JOINT-STOCK BANKS.

Mr. HEADLAM moved a resolution—"That the unlimited liability of shareholders in joint-stock banks gives rise to a species of credit injurious to the interests of the public; and that the present law, enforcing the adoption of this principle, requires alteration." He supported this resolution by a speech attributing great commercial evils to the system of unlimited liability as applied to joint-stock banking, which enables the paid-up capital to be squandered, while credit is still obtained. The resolution was further supported by Mr. EWART, Mr. WYLD, and Mr. MALINS, and opposed by Mr. COWAN, Mr. COLLIER, Mr. LOCKE KING, and Mr. WEGUELIN.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER refused to be bound down to a formula declaring that the unlimited liability of joint-stock banks is injurious to the interests of the public. The notes of a country bank circulate on the credit of that bank, and it would not be just to deprive the holders of the security of unlimited liability. The whole question, however, would fall under the notice of the committee, the reappointment of which he should move on the following Friday.

Mr. HANKEY moved, by way of amendment, the following resolution:—"That the present law, enforcing the unlimited liability of shareholders in joint-stock banks, requires alteration."—After a short reply by Mr. HEADLAM (who disapproved of the suggestion to refer the question to a select committee), the original motion was negatived, and, upon a division, Mr. Hankey's resolution was likewise negatived by 118 to 47.

THE BEVERLEY ELECTION.

The resolution of the select committee on the Beverley Election Petition having been read, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. J. A. SMITH, to instruct the Attorney-General to prosecute Edward Auchmuty Glover, Esq.

A new writ for the county of Mayo was issued, on the motion of Colonel FRENCH, after some opposition by Colonel NORTH, on the ground that the prosecution of the priests has not yet taken place.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK.

The House having gone into committee on the Queen's Message, and the Message having been read by the Chairman, Lord PALMERSTON moved a resolution concerning an annuity of 1000*l.* on General Havelock for life. His Lordship warmly eulogized the conduct of all our Indian officers, and observed, with respect to General Wilson, that, as he is a Company's officer, the East India House will provide for him.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON seconded the motion, and said he thought they ought in some way to acknowledge the services of the gallant little bands of soldiers fighting in India.—Mr. BRISCOE suggested the addition of the words 'and his next successor during his life.' In the case of Lord Gough, the provision was 2000*l.* a year, with reversion to the two next heirs.—Mr. WHITE, as a merchant, and Mr. CROSSLAND, could not but regard the proposed stipend as niggardly.—Admiral WALCOT and Sir WILLIAM CROXKOTON eulogized the gallant deeds of the army in India; and, the motion having been unanimously agreed to, the House resumed, and immediately afterwards went into Committee of Supply, to consider that portion of the Queen's Speech which related to finances. A vote of Supply being agreed to, the House again resumed, and once more went into committee, this time on the

BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

Mr. MALINS moved the omission from the second clause of the proviso, that if, before the expiration of twenty-eight days after the meeting of Parliament in 1858, the Bank give public notice that they have reduced the minimum rate of interest below ten per cent., the suppression of the limit shall cease.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER objected; the amendment was negatived, on a division; and the clauses of the bill were agreed to.

The House adjourned at a few minutes before ten o'clock.

Wednesday, December 9th.

The BANK INDEMNITY BILL was read a first time in the HOUSE OF LORDS, having previously been read a third time and passed in the Lower House. This was the only business transacted by the peers.

THE BANK ACT.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. HORSFALL presented a petition from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, stating that, if a larger proportion of members belonging to the manufacturing and commercial interests were placed on the committee appointed to inquire into the operation of the Bank Act, more confidence would be felt in its decision; and praying that on the reappointment of the committee such addition should be accordingly made to it.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK'S ANNUITY.

On the report of the committee being brought up by Mr. FITZROY, a further attempt was made by Colonel NORTH, Mr. BAGWELL, Mr. KINNAIRD, Mr. EDWARD BALL, Mr. FARQUHAR, and Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, to extend the grant to Sir Henry Havelock's son, who has participated in the victories of his father, and been re-

warded with the Victoria Cross.—Mr. GLADSTONE protested against the House interfering in the granting of rewards, which is a function of the Crown, and should be left in the hands of the Crown's advisers.—Sir H. WILLOUGHBY spoke to the same effect; and the report was agreed to.—In the course of the discussion, Mr. VERNON SMITH announced the receipt of a despatch from Calcutta, dated October 31st, which will be found in another column.—The Annuity Bill was subsequently brought in, and read a first time.

THE CLIVE FUND.

On the report of the Committee of Supply being brought up,

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON inquired what was the present state and condition of the Clive Fund, and whether it was still devoted to its original objects. He adverted likewise to what he thought an abuse of patronage. It had been announced that one hundred and ten infantry cadets, besides cavalry, are to be sent to Bengal in 1858, although there are seven hundred officers of the native army of Bengal unemployed, owing to the mutiny of their regiments.—Mr. VERNON SMITH said, the question relating to Lord Clive's Fund involved details into which he could not enter off-hand. The supply of cadets for the Bengal native army is in the hands of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, and the number of cadets referred to does not equal half the amount required for the army, the surviving officers being mostly of higher rank than the grade of ensign.—Questions were likewise put by Sir H. WILLOUGHBY, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. WILLIAMS, relating to the Indian finances, which were replied to in some detail by the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, who said that, according to the best judgment he could form from the past, he did not anticipate any serious demand upon the Imperial finances in aid of the Indian treasury.—The report was agreed to.

ESTIMATES.

On the motion of Mr. WILSON, the navy and army estimates were ordered to be laid before the House.

The House adjourned at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, December 10th.

The business in the HOUSE OF LORDS was confined to the asking and answering of a few unimportant questions, and to the second reading of the BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

THE ORGAN NOISANCE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Sir JOHN SHELLEY presented a petition from the inhabitants of Belgravia, complaining of the 'organ-grinding nuisance,' and praying that measures may be taken to prevent its continuance.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Mr. WYSE presented a petition from Bengal and the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, praying for the removal of the Government of India from the East India Company to that of the Queen.

BIG BEN.

In reply to Mr. BOWYER, Sir BENJAMIN HALL said that the accident to the great bell named after him was occasioned by the bell being cast thinner than was intended in that part which was struck by the hammer; but the Messrs. Warner will not be called upon to defray the expense of the re-casting. The new bell will be delivered by the 19th of February, and will be tried with a seven hundred-weight clapper.

CIRCUITS OF JUDGES.

In reply to Mr. WARREN, Sir GEORGE GREY said that, on receiving the report of the law commissioners, he had submitted it to the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for approval. Some of the recommendations of the commissioners could only be carried out by acts of Parliament; and it was the intention of the Government to ask the House to assent to bills on the subject.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.

In reply to Mr. GARNETT, Mr. COWPER said the Home Office had appointed a special inspector for reformatory schools, and it was determined that, after a period to be fixed, those institutions which were receiving Government grants would discontinue to receive them.

LORD CLIVE'S FUND.

In reply to some further questions by Sir JOHN PAKINGTON with respect to the Clive Fund, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that the fund had long been lost, both principal and interest, and that those individuals who are nominally paid out of it are in fact provided for by the East India Company.

CONVEYANCE OF TROOPS TO INDIA.

In reply to Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, Lord PALMERSTON said he did not think that the French troops on the way to Pondicherry go across Egypt, but he had no knowledge of the facts, and could not say whether the French Government did or did not obtain a firman from the Porte for the passage. With regard to the passage of English troops through Egypt to India, the Government were informed by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, on the 30th of June, by telegraph, that he would apply for permission for the British troops to go through Egypt, if the Government thought it necessary; and on the 8th of July he was informed that it was not the intention of the Government to send any troops by that route. The reasons which induced her Majesty's Government to

come to this decision were, that such transports would require complicated arrangements, and demand infinitely more time than could be given; and that in putting down the mutiny it was considered advisable that it should be performed with the resources of this country only.

THE OATHS BILL.

The House having gone into committee, Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in moving that the chairman be directed to move for leave to bring in a bill to substitute one oath for the Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration, and for the relief of her Majesty's subjects professing the Jewish religion, stated the nature of the bill, the chief feature of which is the addition to the oath proposed in his former bill of the words 'on the true faith of a Christian,' a subsequent clause authorizing the omission of those words when the oath is administered to a Jew. He did not propose to alter the Roman Catholic oath. With respect to the disputed question whether that House is competent to frame a declaration to be taken instead of an oath, his Lordship was of opinion that that point might be revived, if necessary.—The motion was supported by Mr. DILLWYN, Mr. COX, Mr. FRANK, Mr. BUTT (an opponent of the former bills, now converted, as he told the House, to 'the Christian principle of doing to others as he would that others should do to him'), Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. WALTER, and Mr. CONINGHAM; and was opposed, or at least objected to, by Sir FREDERICK THESIGER, Mr. BENTINCK, Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. STANHOPE, and Mr. STEUART; while Mr. ADAMS reserved his opinions on the measure for the present.—The motion was then agreed to, the resolution reported, and the bill ordered to be brought in.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (1848) AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. COWPER obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend this act. The object which he had in view was to extend the operation of the original act so as to render it more available for the removal of those causes which are known to conduce to mortality.

Sir HENRY HAVELOCK'S ANNUITY BILL having been read a second time, after some further observations from several members to the effect that the grant of money ought to have been larger, the House adjourned at half-past eight o'clock.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

By an extra mail from India we have received some additional intelligence from the disturbed districts during the present week. The news from Calcutta is thus brought down to the 31st of October, a week later than that by the last bi-monthly mail. The official despatch to the East India House, from Mr. G. F. EDMONSTOUN, Secretary to the Indian Government, is as follows:—

"LUCKNOW.—Communications still difficult, and no certain intelligence from Lucknow of later date than the 21st of October received in this office. On that day, food was running short, and it would seem that the gun bullocks were being slaughtered. But relief was approaching: Colonel Greathed's column, after reoccupying Mynpoore, putting the Rajah to flight, and recovering much property and two and a half lakhs of treasure, reached Cawnpore on the 26th. For some time past, troops have been leaving this daily for the same destination, and the Commander-in-Chief started on the 27th.

"BRIGADIER SHOWERS'S COLUMN.—The force, of about 1200, from Delhi, under Brigadier Showers, occupied Dadree on the 15th October, taking six guns; and then, being joined by Cashmere troops, took possession of Jhujur, with twenty-one guns and much ammunition. The Nawab surrendered himself. On the 20th, they seized Kanood, cutting off four hundred of the Nawab's troops, and taking five lakhs of treasure.

"DELHI.—There is no doubt that the King's life has been guaranteed. He will be sent to Allahabad, for conveyance to Calcutta. Particulars have been called for.

"REWAH.—The arrival of the Madras troops at the Kuttra Pass put everything at Rewah into the Political Agent's hands. The Sardars submitted, and gave up the prisoners whom they had forcibly released. The Rajah expressed extreme regret, and quiet was restored. The Political Agent intended to return from the camp at the Kuttra Pass to Rewah on the 25th. The troops were to march from the camp towards Cawnpore.

"NATIVE STATES.—An agent of the Nana Sahib has put himself at the head of the mutineers of the Gwalior Contingent, and it is thought probable that he may form a junction with the Dinapore mutineers at Banda, or that he may march direct on Calpie. The Gwalior mutineers left Gwalior on the 15th and 16th, with siege-train, field-guns, and much ammunition, and have been heard of thirty-six miles from Gwalior. Major Burton, the Political Agent at Harrowtee, has been foully murdered, with his two sons, by the Raj troops. The Rajah is said not to have been concerned in the act. Jodhpore mutineers have gone towards the Sambhur Lake: and the Indore mutineers, who were defeated at Agra on the 10th, have fled to Rajpootana."

In its summary of news, the *Hurkaru* remarks:—
"As we told our readers on the 22nd inst., the rebel-

lion is by no means put down, neither are the rebels showing the smallest signs of being disheartened. They are still threatening our forces at all the principal points in Bengal and the North-West. In the other presidencies, as in the Punjab, there is but little disturbance of the outward tranquillity which has generally prevailed, though in Bombay some traitors have been discovered among the Sepoys, and some severe executions have been the result. According to the present aspect of things, it seems that Oude is to be the great centre of the contest which we have now to sustain. Agra has been again threatened, but the insurgents have diverted their course, and are proceeding in the direction of Lucknow, where, on the other hand, we are preparing to concentrate a large force, in order to make a decisive blow."

The following items of official news and despatches appear in the Calcutta newspapers:—

"FROM THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

"BENARES, OCTOBER 24.—A man of the Intelligence Department, who left Lucknow about eight days ago, reports that our prospects there were looking up. Half the city, he says, was in our power, and our troops beyond reach of the enemy. The messenger saw three hundred or four hundred footsore fugitives from Delhi coming south. When they heard of our Ghorkas' doings, they returned back northwards. The Ghorkas' doings were probably the defeat of the party which crossed the Joudpore frontier the other day, with loss of about two hundred and fifty killed, one hundred and eighty-one bodies counted next day, besides many shot in a tank, and others carried away in the night. Our small body of Police Sowars cut up large numbers; six standards are taken. Our loss is seven wounded.

"FROM CAPT. H. BRUCE TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

"CAWNPORE, TUESDAY, OCT. 27.—A letter from Major-General Outram of the 26th September, states that Lieutenant Wild, of the 40th N.I., who was supposed to be dead, is living.

"FROM COLONEL WILSON TO THE CHIEF OF THE STAFF.

"CAMP MYNPOORIE CANTONMENTS, OCTOBER 20.—We march on Bawar to-morrow, and, if all goes well, undertake to reach Cawnpore by the 28th instant. A body of mutineers, with eight guns, were reported to have taken up a position at Bawar, but are now said to have fled. The Gwalior troops are believed to be making for Jhansi, and a large number of Delhi fugitive mutineers were at Meerum. The force between this and Cawnpore, a few days ago, were doubtful whether to march into Oude or to make for Banda and that neighbourhood."

The *Hurkaru* correspondent at Cawnpore sends the following:—

"The great Zemindar Maun Sing has rejoined us. At Alumbagh, our poor fellows know less of Sir James Outram's movements than we do. The column under Major Bamston, seven hundred men, with six guns, left yesterday morning. The enemy have sent out two regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and twelve guns, to oppose them. Colonel Greathed's column, six hundred sabres, twelve H. A. guns, and one thousand two hundred Europeans, will reach this on the 27th. Colonel O'Brien has committed suicide at Futtehpore. It is believed that we have succeeded in blowing up a mass of the enemy's ammunition at Kodaghabagh. Impey leaves to-morrow, and, if Captain Murphy follows suit, why God help us!"

A writer from Hushungabad, where the 28th Madras Native Infantry is now stationed, states that a considerable body of rebels arrived at a village near Purdah, on the opposite bank of the Nerbuddah, about fifty-six miles from Hushungabad, and planted the Mahomedan standard there in the name of the King of Delhi. A small force has been sent against them to repel their further advances.

It now appears that, during the siege of Delhi, the Sepoys took all the wounded Europeans they could catch, and burnt them alive at stakes. The discovery of this fact has driven our men almost frantic with rage. A n Englishman was found at Delhi in the dress of a native officer. It is said that he assisted the mutineers in their defence; but of this there is some doubt.

Another proclamation of Nana Sahib has been published. It accuses the English Government of a design to kill 50,000 Hindostanees, as a preliminary to converting the whole country to Christianity; and repeats the story about the Sultan of Turkey and the Pacha of Egypt, and of the 35,000 English soldiers destroyed by the latter at the Isthmus of Suez. This document, however, we suspect to be the same as that with which the public were made acquainted some months ago.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Further papers relating to the Indian Mutiny, and consisting of letters from the Governor-General to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, the dates of which extend from August 15th to October 7th, have been issued to the public this week. The Commissioner of Patna, the Collector of Chupra, and Mr. Horne, the collector and magistrate of Azimghur, are severely censured for inattention to

their duties and pusillanimity; and the first-named (Mr. Tayler) has been dismissed. Captain Sismore's flight from Chyebassa is denounced as 'derogatory and unnecessary,' and he has resigned his post. The Rajah of Doornraon is looked upon as a time-server, and is to be closely watched. The courage and good faith of the Sikhs are highly commended, and so is the Mahomedan Association at Calcutta. The East India Company seems to have approved of Lord Canning's policy towards the press. A man calling himself the Bishop of Bagdad, but who appears to have been connected with the ex-King of Oude, has been lodged in the gaol of Calcutta.

THE CAPTURE OF THE RAJAH OF ASSAM.

Captain Lowther's capture of the Rajah of Assam is one of the most extraordinary romances of the rebellion. Accompanied by the political resident of Sebsaugor and a small party of Ghorkas, he dropped down the river by moonlight, crossed a large swampy jungle, where the elephants sometimes sank down nearly to their ears, and reached the palace during the night.

"The noise awoke the sleeping guard, and, as they started up from their slumbers, I caught one firmly by the throat; the little Ghorka next me felled with a butt-end blow another of them while they were getting to arms, I having strictly forbidden my men to fire until obliged; the remainder, as we rushed in, took to flight, and my eager party wished to fire on them, which I prevented, not considering such valiant game worth powder and shot. In the darkness and confusion no means of entrance could at once be found. My police guide, however, having been often in the palace, knew every room in it, and, thrusting himself in at a door, acted ferret to perfection, and by dint of activity soon brought me into the presence of the King, who, though young in years, is old in sin. He refused to surrender or admit any one—a resolution which cooled instantly on my calling my men to set fire to the palace, and he then with a bad grace delivered up to me his state sword. A shout from the opposite doors proclaimed an entry there. The Queen Mother and the rest of the female Royalty and attendants were seized while trying to descend on that side. Then came a chorus of shouting and struggling, and bawling for lights and assistance; at last, a lamp being procured, we proceeded to examine the palace; we wandered in dark passages and cells, while I mounted a guard at every door. The Prime Minister was found at his house, fast asleep. We did not get as many of his papers as we wanted, he having been told by his correspondents to destroy all letters after reading them.

"At sunset, I carried off my prisoners over the same bad ground by which we had so stealthily arrived. We were followed by about 2000 infuriated Mussulmans, crying, praying, and prostrating themselves to the object of their lingering hope of rebellion (the Rajah), but we drove them off."

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

ANOTHER accident in the course of hunting has occurred. The Hon. Captain Lawley, of Hutton Hall, was thrown a few days ago while riding at a gallop in a fence, with a ditch on the near side, covered with long grass. The horse fell with him, and dragged him some distance by the stirrup. Mr. Lawley was stunned and seriously bruised, but no bones were broken, and he is slowly recovering.

Mrs. Shaw, a woman seventy years of age, living near the Waterloo-road, was burnt to death on Sunday morning, by a spark flying out of the grate, and setting her clothes on fire.

Captain Hodson, of the ship *Ariel*, fell from the starboard bulwarks last Saturday morning as the vessel was working down the river, and sank before assistance could reach him.

Captain Watkins, of the Northampton Militia, met with his death while travelling with his regiment by rail from Oxford to Plymouth. He put his head out of the carriage window while the train was in motion, when it came in contact with the buttress of a wall, and he was killed on the spot.

AMERICA.

BUSINESS in the United States continues to recover from its depression, but the arrival of the news of the panic in England, and the suspension of the Bank Acts, has created some excitement.

The Government purpose sending reinforcements for the Utah expedition both by way of Oregon and California. It is gravely stated that S. F. Slater, of New Orleans, had been appointed Minister to England from Nicaragua by General Walker, and that he has accepted the appointment.

The winter appears to have set in at various parts of the country. A despatch from Buffalo mentions a heavy fall of snow. The canal was not then closed. From Albany, it was stated, that the canal was still open, though ice had formed. The Welland Canal was obstructed by ice. The steamship *Rainbow* has been destroyed by fire near Arkansas, and seventy-five persons

had lost their lives. About a hundred lives have been lost on the Mississippi and Ohio during bad weather.

Sir William Gore Ouseley has been twice received by the President.

The last accounts from Mexico describe the country as in a most distracted condition. Another general revolution was impending; and negotiations were going on between the revolutionists and Santa Anna, whom the former appear to design for President. Twenty-three political exiles have arrived in England, including ex-President Silas Jose Washington, Colonel Romero, and Mr. Moran, editor of a newspaper, who was imprisoned for publications against the Governor of Zacatecas. Comonfort's fall was considered certain, and it was thought doubtful if his life would be spared if he remained in the country.

Some two hundred American soldiers have been surprised and massacred by a party of Indians near the Missouri river.

Two envoys from Costa Rica have been formally received at Washington. In a speech on this occasion, Mr. Buchanan expressed a hope to see a United Confederacy of Central American States.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

"It was known at Hong-Kong on October 15," says the *Paris Pays*, on the authority of a letter from London, "that the Emperor of China, with a view to avoid all chance of coming in contact with hostile foreigners, was about to make an excursion in Tartary, accompanied by his family and the members of his court. It is well known that the Emperor's counsellors, who have always concealed the truth from him, are most anxious that he should not receive any foreign ambassadors. A journey to Tartary is their usual expedient when they want to get the sovereign out of the way.

A Spanish Bishop, named Diaz, has been beheaded at Ram-Ting, after having been kept in prison for some time, and treated with great cruelty.

It is announced that the Chinese Government has demanded of the Russian Government the immediate evacuation of the Chinese territory, of which that Power has taken possession on the banks of the river Amoor.

Preparations are being made for the assault on Canton.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

The *Presse* has been suspended for two months from the 4th inst. for an article calling on 'the revolutionary party' to cease living on its reminiscences and regrets, to abandon the policy of abstention, and to take 'decisive resolutions,' and containing the words—"It appears as if we had all heard, from one end of Europe to the other, a voice calling on us to arise and march! . . . We have already reckoned our numbers; we know that we are a great party devoted to revolution."

The *Courrier de Paris*, under the head of "La Presse Constitutionnelle," announces its intention of inaugurating a policy of constitutional opposition, encouraged by the fact of MM. Darimon, Ollivier, and Hénon, having taken the oath. That policy it thus defines:—"Liberty by the constitution, liberty by the elections, liberty by universal suffrage, and, finally, liberty by constitutional opposition." It is to be hoped that this article is genuine; but there is a report that it is only a deceptive mode of announcing that the *Courrier de Paris* has been bought by the Government.

The *Gazette du Languedoc* has been definitively suppressed, for the expression of some obnoxious opinions.

Count de Ségur, one of the members of the Legislative Assembly, has given in his resignation, on account of his election having been attacked for illegal electioneering practices. M. Ollivier suggested that the resignation should not be accepted, but that the case should be examined into for the purpose of throwing light on the illegal practices generally resorted to at the late elections. The electoral proceedings in the case of Count Louis de Cambacérès have been annulled, on the score of insufficiency of age at the period of the election.

A decree in the *Moniteur* dismisses the Procureur-Imperial of St. Etienne for misconduct in connexion with the abduction of a child. The deep displeasure of the Emperor has also been officially conveyed to M. Chapuis de Montlaville, the principal party in the abduction; and he intends to resign his position as Senator. The Commissary of Police of St. Etienne has likewise been dismissed. M. de Montlaville has written to the papers to defend himself.

General Piobert, of the Artillery, and a member of the Institute, has made a discovery by which the explosion of gunpowder in magazines may be prevented. It consists simply of mixing the gunpowder with coal dust. When the gunpowder is required for use, it is only necessary to sift it; the coal dust falls through the sieve, and the gunpowder resumes its original qualities. The experiment has been tried with complete success, the gunpowder being found to burn slowly like pitch or tar.

Subscriptions have been opened in the department of the Loire for the relief of the unemployed operatives.

It appears that the number of medals called Médailles de Sainte-Hélène already distributed to those who served under the Empire amounts to no less than 800,000.

The Directors of the Bank of France last Saturday reduced the rate of discount on commercial bills one per cent. The rates now are—six per cent. on bills having thirty days to run; seven per cent. on bills at sixty days; and eight per cent. on bills at ninety days.

The Emperor has paid a visit to Queen Christina at Malmaison, probably to congratulate her on the birth of the Prince of Asturias. The Empress met the Spanish Queen-Mother at the Palais Royal.

PORTUGAL.

The fever at Lisbon seems to be diminishing. Several shocks of earthquake were felt on the 19th ult., both at Lisbon and other parts of the country.

The unpleasant sulphury flavour given to wines which have been made from grapes taken from vines sprinkled with brimstone on account of the oidium, is now said to be removed by the use of pulverized charcoal.

PRUSSIA.

The police of Berlin lately discovered a slaughter-house in which dogs were killed for the purpose of sale as butchers' meat. Suspicion of the existence of such an establishment had for some time been excited in consequence of the disappearance of great numbers of dogs of large size.

Rauch, the sculptor, died at Dresden on Thursday week. He had nearly completed his eighty-first year.

RUSSIA.

The St. Petersburg journals affirm that there has been a reduction in the army of 3000 officers and 200,000 men. In order to appreciate the real bearing of this measure (observes a contemporary), it must be remembered that Russia has two kinds of army—her real effective force, and the nominal one, which is to be found on paper only. It is in this latter that has taken place the reduction of which the Russian journals speak. The result of the modification will be the suppression of a certain number of sinecures and a corresponding economy in the war budget.

AUSTRIA.

Miss Nightingale has been in Vienna for some time. She frequently visits the hospitals, and is treated with great respect.

SWEDEN.

The Government has granted to MM. Westenholz the concession of a submarine telegraph between the eastern coast and Russia.

"The accounts," says a letter from Stockholm, of the 2nd, "which reach this city daily from the principal commercial towns in the interior, and from the ports in the Baltic, are most deplorable."

DENMARK.

The Minister of Finance has made over to the National Bank of Copenhagen the sum of 1,500,000 rix-dollars, to be advanced to the commercial world by way of loan on securities of *valuers* or goods. The National Bank at the same time raised its rate of discount for bills from six to seven per cent. It has also notified that it grants a renewal for three months to all Hamburg bills which it has in its hands, and which are due.

HAMBURG.

The Senate has been called together on account of the commercial crisis. "The object," says a letter from Hamburg, "was the renewal of the Bankrupt Law of 1799. It was further thought advisable that the Senate should be empowered to appoint an extra number of Judges of the Court of Commerce, to meet the vast accumulation of business which will be brought before it, and an extra number of clerks in the public offices would also have to be engaged for the same purpose. These proposals were sanctioned by the meeting." After some collision between the Senate and the Assembly of Burgesses, it has been decided to create a State Discount Bank, and that a sum of 15,000,000 marks banco shall be granted to it.

TURKEY.

The Commission of the Four Powers signed, on the 5th inst., at Constantinople, the final act of the rectification of the Russian frontier in Asia.

The pay of the subaltern officers in the army has been augmented by an Imperial ordinance.

ITALY.

The King of Sardinia has issued a decree establishing a council for the settlement of disputed points within the range of diplomacy, viz., such as relate to emigration, extradition, interpretation of treaties, levies of troops, questions of nationality, international law, &c. The matters to be decided on are to be referred to the council by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The council is formed of seven members to be named by the King, and its powers are purely consultative. Count Frederic Sclopia, a member of the extreme Right, is appointed president.

SWITZERLAND.

M. Furrer has been elected President of the Swiss Confederation, and M. Stumpli Vice-President.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

THE CONFESSIONS OF A LONDON THIEF.

An extraordinary light has been let in upon the robbery of the Countess of Ellesmere's jewels, dresses, &c., when property to the amount of 15,000*l.* was appropriated by a company of thieves. For some time past, a tradesman named Jackson has been under remand at the Worship-street police-court, on a charge of purchasing the things with the knowledge that they had been stolen; and now one of the confederate thieves, who is at present in prison for another offence, has made a statement to the police, divulging all the facts of the case. His story is of a most singular kind, and has been so amusingly retold in a leading article of the *Times* that we here repeat it as it there appears:—

"On the 22nd of January of last year, Mr. Attwell (the informer), in company with his two friends, Messrs. Saint and Whitty, set out upon a little excursion from London-bridge to the West-end, to see if anything could be done in the line of their peculiar profession. When in the neighbourhood of Grosvenor-square, they saw a carriage drawn by two horses, and immediately preceding it two cabs. On one of these was placed a large black portmanteau, with a smaller one by its side. Mr. Whitty hereupon remarked 'There go Port St. Peter,' which expression, being interpreted, means 'trunks.' The friends were instantly fired with a noble ardour. 'May I be lagged,' exclaimed Mr. Whitty, full of noble enthusiasm, 'but I'll have the big one.' They accordingly gave chase, and, when the carriage and the two cabs parted company, Mr. Whitty jumped up behind the vehicle which was the object of their especial pursuit, laid hold of the rail with one hand, and with the other dragged the big portmanteau off into the road. It was so heavy that, we are told, Whitty, being then somewhat out of condition, fell with it. The horse in the cab—so violent was the jerk—reared up, but the driver was not 'tumbled'; in other words, had not taken alarm. The three friends endured some moments of intense anxiety as they watched to see if the two 'cheers,' or cabs, proceeded quietly on their way. They did so, and it was only discovered at the railway terminus that Lady Ellesmere's jewel-box, or rather jewel-trunk, had apparently melted into empty air. The trunk was conveyed to the shop of Mr. Edward Jackson, oil and colourman, Leonard-street, Shoreditch, and deposited under his counter, as though it had been forwarded to him in the regular course of business. The confederates soon assembled in Mr. Jackson's back parlour. They consisted of the three friends, Messrs. Whitty, Attwell, and Saint already named, and of Mr. and Mrs. Jackson. To give an idea of what followed, it will be proper to mention what was the real nature and what the value of the property which was soon to be tossed from hand to hand in the little back parlour of the Shoreditch oil-shop. We take at random, from the detailed account, a pearl necklace, a diamond necklace, an emerald and diamond necklace, a pair of diamond earrings, a pair of emerald and diamond earrings, a large pair of diamond branches, a small pair of diamond branches, an emerald and diamond bracelet, and so on throughout. Besides the jewellery there were lace dresses, China shawls, velvet cloaks, Indian scarfs, and other articles such as might naturally be supposed to form part of the wardrobe of Lady Ellesmere when on her way to Windsor Castle.

"The back parlour, then, in Leonard-street, Shoreditch, soon presented the appearance of Aladdin's Cave; but, like so many ignorant Aladdins, the confederates conceived that the jewels were only so many bits of coloured glass or stone. Mr. Attwell, indeed, appears to have had some dim suspicion of the reality, for, as he took up a diamond coronet, he exclaimed, 'Why, them things are sparks!' meaning diamonds; but the better opinion among the party was, that the fire of the splendid jewels was a mere sham. Mrs. Jackson, who might be supposed to be better informed than her male companions as to such feminine mysteries, gave it as a suggestion, 'that the lady who owned the articles must be a kind of fashionable woman.' But it was necessary to proceed to business, that is, to divide the spoil, and to convert it into money. Whitty sold a diamond butterfly which had fallen to his share for 2*s.* to Mrs. Jackson, and also a lace shawl at the same figure. The real value of the article was about 50*l.* Other smaller portions of the property were disposed of at similar prices, and in the same way. Whitty, among his share of the spoil, obtained a pair of Lady Ellesmere's stays and linen, which 'were all given by him to a lady named Polly Gentleman.' The more serious discussion, however, was as to the value of the great bulk of the spoil. Jackson believed the jewels to be worth about 40*l.* (he should have said 14,000*l.*); the others were completely in the dark upon the subject. They finally resolved to go and consult a man named Sam Britton, who seems to have been considered by them as a kind of authority upon such subjects, as to the dresses. To his house they were conducted by a gentleman named 'California'; but, unfortunately, Mr. Britton was not at home, and it was not until a later period of the evening that they were able to commence their negotiation. They asked 15*l.* for Lady Ellesmere's wardrobe, but Mr. Britton steadily refused to give so exorbitant a sum, and finally

closed with them for 3*l.* The jewels were disposed of for sums of the like amount, with the exception, perhaps, of the emerald and diamond necklace, which, according to Jackson's account, was sold to a Jew for 300*l.* When the reward for the apprehension of the thieves was offered, the confederates seem to have taken alarm, and many articles of great value were thrown away, but they should lead to their detection. The emerald drop and diamond bow were thrown away in Spitalfields, and a pair of diamond earrings was flung into a field near Whitechapel. The gold articles were in great part melted down, and altogether it is to be feared that there is but little chance that Lady Ellesmere will recover a portion of her property. We are not, however, at the end of the inquiry yet, for Whitty and Saint, two of the chief actors in the robbery, are still 'wanted.'"

The three thieves sold the whole of the property to Jackson for 40*l.*; but, on discovering, after the offer of a reward, that the worth of the jewels, &c., was infinitely greater than they had supposed, they went to Jackson, and threatened to 'round' on him if he did not give them more. He asserted that he had been as ignorant as they of the real value, and had resold the property for only a few more pounds than he had given them. However, after a good deal of haggling, the receiver, evidently under the influence of fear, gave the thieves 2*l.* apiece more; so that 46*l.*, divided among the three, was all they got for articles valued at 15,000*l.*!

Jackson was again brought up on Monday before Mr. D'Eyncourt, at Worship-street, upon several fresh charges, and was committed for trial for receiving jewels and property stolen from a Miss Manley.

THE ASSIZES.

The most important trial this week has been that of James Henderson for the murder of his father. Our readers are already in possession of the facts, which we need not here repeat. The evidence was of a grave complexion, but, as it left some doubt as to the guilt of the accused, the judge summed up with an evident leaning in favour of an acquittal, and the jury (after a trial of three days) gave in a verdict of Not Guilty—a decision which was received with loud applause. The case was tried at Chester.

There have been two trials for child murder by the mothers this week—one at Winchester, the other at Lincoln. In the first, Fanny Harris has been condemned to death, though it would seem that she was driven by want into the commission of the crime; in the second, where the woman had cut off the head of her infant with a hatchet, a verdict of Not Guilty has been returned on the ground of insanity.

A youth named Joseph Ragnall has been found guilty, at York, of the manslaughter of another youth at whom, in a fit of passion, he threw a pair of tongs. He was sentenced to a week's imprisonment.

Charles Holloway, a respectable-looking young man, has been found guilty at Maidstone of forging and uttering a navy bill for 46*l.* He was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

Frederick John Bushell was tried at the same place on a charge of wounding his wife with intent to murder. He got up in the course of the night, took his razor, and approached the bed with it. The wife, anticipating his design, caught up a shawl which was lying on the bed, and twisted it round her throat. Bushell pulled her out of bed, and she struggled with him to the door, and then fell down stairs. He followed her, and cut her throat through the shawl. In endeavouring to seize the razor, several of the woman's fingers were cut; but at length she got away, and ran to the police-office. On the police going to the house, they found that the man had cut his own throat. He was removed to the hospital, and said he was sure his wife would die, as he 'had given her a good cutting.' Such in fact was the case, as a small branch of the jugular vein had been severed, and, had the wound gone any further, it would have been fatal. Bushell appears to have been jealous of his wife, and she had been living away from him at her mother's for some time. She had returned, of her own accord, on the very day of the attempted murder, and she and her husband had been very friendly up to the moment of the attack. He was given to habits of intoxication; his mother died in a lunatic asylum; and his father at the same age was affected with similar suspicions as to the fidelity of his wife as those under which the accused seems to have laboured. The defence was insanity; but Bushell was found guilty, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

John Ackroyd has been tried at York for cutting and wounding an old man named Jonathan Holdsworth, on the 17th of July, with intent to murder. The facts have already appeared in these columns. Ackroyd was exasperated at a scandal which he supposed had been disseminated to the discredit of his (Ackroyd's) wife, and he therefore wounded him with a shoemaker's knife. He was found guilty, and sentence of death was recorded.

A third case of cutting and wounding has been tried at Liverpool. James Farraday lived with one Agnes Lakeman, the sister of his deceased wife, and a married woman separated from her husband. They frequently quarrelled, and she often threatened to leave him. On the 14th of September, a neighbouring woman saw something so strange in Farraday's appearance that she said

to him, "Why, Jem, you look like a murderer." After he had been drinking for some time, he returned home, went to bed at six o'clock in the evening, and at about one o'clock in the morning disturbed Mrs. Lakeman, her mother, and the two children (a boy and girl), who all slept in another room, by moving about a great deal, apparently in an excited state. He afterwards entered Mrs. Lakeman's room with wild looks, told his boy to go into his bed in the other room, and asked for a light. The old woman got up, partly dressed herself, and went down stairs for a candle. Farraday then pulled up the blind, to get, as he said, 'all the light he could,' and cut the woman's throat with a razor in the presence of the little girl. Both he and Mrs. Lakeman had been drinking a great deal together on that and the two previous days. Farraday was found guilty, and sentence of death was recorded, as in the previous case.

Thomas Barlow has been found guilty at Liverpool of wounding his wife (from whom he was separated) by discharging a pistol at her throat. Sentence was deferred.

Edward Hart, a labourer, was tried at Worcester on a charge of wilfully murdering his wife. The medical evidence showed that the poor woman had been suffering from choleraic diarrhoea, and that she had been suffocated; but whether the death was occasioned by the willful act of the prisoner, or was the result of his drunkenness, was so far doubtful that the jury gave him the benefit of the doubt, and found him guilty of manslaughter only. Mr. Baron Martin sentenced him to be imprisoned, with hard labour, for fifteen calendar months.

Charles Butcher, a post-office clerk, pleaded guilty at Northampton to a charge of stealing a letter containing money. Mr. Merewether, who appeared for the prisoner, stated that he had been employed in the Northampton post-office for a period of thirty years, and called the postmaster of Northampton, and several other witnesses, to speak to the man's character. The counsel for the prosecution, however, drew the attention of the Judge to the fact that, for twelve months prior to the commission of the offence charged, the complaints of missing letters in the Northampton office had been very numerous. Butcher was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

James Wright, a farmer, was tried at Nottingham on Tuesday for the murder of William Holland, another farmer, at Giron, on the 5th of September. There was a dispute between the two as to the possession of a certain clover field; and Wright, after some wrangling on the day in question, shot Holland in this field, in the presence of the son of the latter. Wright was found guilty of manslaughter, and the Judge condemned him to penal servitude for life.

Aaron Mellor has been tried at Liverpool for the murder of his wife. They had been separated for a time; but at length the woman consented to return home with her husband. On the way home, a quarrel took place, and Mellor, after striking his wife several times, cut her throat with a knife. He then cut his own throat, but afterwards recovered, while his wife died. He was found guilty, and sentenced to death.

George Tolson, a railway engine-driver, has been found guilty, at York, of causing the death of a Mr. Yates, who was killed in a collision on the Hull and Bridlington Railway on the 25th of July, resulting from the culpable carelessness of Tolson. The jury recommended him to mercy, and he was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

Emily Elizabeth Jones was tried at Winchester on a charge of setting fire to a house while several persons were in it. The inmates escaped, though with great difficulty; and the woman afterwards told a man at a public-house that she had set the house on fire purposely, in order to burn 'the old woman.' She appeared very wild, and seems to have been out of her senses. She was found guilty, and judgment of death was recorded; but inquiries will be made as to the state of her mind.—A similar charge against a man has been tried at Gloucester, and resulted in a conviction. Sentence of death was recorded. An attempt to show that there was madness in the family entirely failed.

A young man named James Ainsworth has pleaded guilty at the York Assizes to a charge of being unlawfully in the United Kingdom, after having been transported for life. He gave himself into custody, and made a statement (which he repeated on being brought up for trial) to the effect that he escaped from Spring Creek, near Hobart Town, where he was sent after having several times murderously assaulted his overseers, &c.; that he went to the diggings, and ultimately to New York, Boston, and Halifax; and that at the last-named place he again got into custody for a robbery, but escaped and came to England. He has now been sentenced to imprisonment for a week, and then to return to penal servitude for life.

A surgeon, named Frederick Deane, residing at Cosham, near Portsmouth, has been tried at Winchester on a charge of causing the death of a Mrs. George by culpable negligence in attending her during her lying-in. He was found guilty, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

A SOLICITOR CHARGED WITH PERJURY.—A little more than a year ago, a man named Stowell, who had acted as an informer, was sentenced to twelve months'

imprisonment for obtaining money from a Mrs. Penny, a public-house keeper, on the false pretence that he was clerk to a Mr. Bingham, a solicitor, and could get her off from some charge which was impending over her. On the trial, Mr. Bingham swore that Stowell was not his clerk; and the man, being now again at liberty, has charged Mr. Bingham at the Southwark police-court with perjury. He has produced several witnesses who proved that he was regarded by Mr. Bingham as his clerk; and the magistrate has therefore committed that gentleman for trial, but admitted him to bail. Stowell has also brought another charge of perjury against Mr. William Watson, a publican in Walworth. This case has been adjourned.

CRUELTY ON THE HIGH SEAS.—Captain Christie, of the barque Elizabeth, and James Millard, chief mate of the same vessel, have been further examined at Liverpool, and committed for trial—the former on the charge of manslaughter, the latter simply for an assault. The mate was admitted to bail. The evidence discloses a series of cruelties of the most heartrending kind, almost surpassing anything which even the criminal records of the 'high seas' have yet produced.—Another case of cruelty at sea on board an American vessel is being investigated at Glasgow.

THE CHARGE OF POISONING AND FORGERY.—Mr. Monk, the surgeon at Preston, now in custody under suspicion of forging the will of a Mr. Turner, and of causing his death, was examined on Friday week on the former charge. Evidence was given to the effect that the will was produced by Mr. Monk some days after Mr. Turner's death, and after unsuccessfully endeavouring to obtain the deceased's money from the bank as the principal creditor and the agent for paying Mr. Turner's workmen. At first he said that no will had been found, and he therefore took steps to procure letters of administration; but he afterwards produced a will, written in legal phraseology on the blank outside of a draft. It purported to be signed by Edward Turner, James Holden, and Thomas Wilkinson; but one Robert Farnmouth, who said he knew Turner well, swore that the signature was not in his handwriting, and added that he did not know any man of the name of Holden, and that he had never heard Turner say anything about a will. Joseph Wilkinson said the signature of his name in the will was not his handwriting, and that he knew nothing whatever about it. The will bequeathed three shillings a week to Turner's housekeeper, and the remainder of the effects to Mr. Monk. On producing this document at the bank, Turner's balance, amounting to 56l. odd, was paid to Mr. Monk. The accused (who is senior alderman of the borough and a deputy-lieutenant of the county, and who has been Mayor of Preston) was remanded. He was further examined on Tuesday, when the principal witness was a Mrs. Pipe, who had been induced by the accused to make the copy of the will. Mrs. Pipe, on being put into the witness-box, wept bitterly, and fainted. She was carried into an adjoining room, and ultimately gave her evidence. Mr. Monk was committed for trial.

EMBEZZLEMENT.—William W. Thompson, traveller to the firm of Messrs. Jones and Co., of Gracechurch-street, oil-merchants, is under remand before the Lord Mayor, charged with having embezzled several sums of money, amounting to upwards of 2000l.—Mr. George Nathaniel Hosking, a surgeon, has been committed for trial on a charge of embezzling various sums of money, amounting to 170l.

FRAUD AND FORGERY.—Joseph Clarkson is under remand at Bow-street, on the charge of obtaining a quantity of danmark from Messrs. Shoobred, of Tottenham-court-road, by means of a forged order purporting to be written by Major Martin, of Ham Court, Upton-on-Severn.

IMMORAL PUBLICATIONS.—John Thornhill and Mary Elliott, booksellers of Holywell-street, have been committed for trial on charges of selling immoral books, pictures, &c.

THE MURDER OF THAIN.—An inquest has been held on the body of Thain, the detective officer, and has terminated in a verdict of Wilful Murder against Sattler.

JEWEL ROBBERIES.—Henry Morris, William Clark, Charles Stevens, and John Hughes, are under remand at Bow-street, charged with an attempt to take out a pane of glass from the window of a jeweller's shop in Henrietta-street, Covent-garden; and also on suspicion of being concerned in several robberies from jewellers' shops, effected in the same manner.

ALTERING A TELEGRAPHIC SIGNAL.—Charles Hattley, described as a grocer's assistant, was brought up on remand before the Greenwich magistrate, on Monday, charged with wilfully altering a telegraphic signal at the Deptford station of the London and Greenwich branch of the South-Eastern Railway, thereby endangering the lives of the passengers. He was committed for trial.

THE CASE OF THE TWO COLOURED GIRLS.—The girls Rose and Minnie Avon, who represented themselves as slaves escaped from America, were again interrogated at the Southwark police-court on Tuesday, when Mr. Ferguson, chief clerk of the Mendicity Society, attended, and produced evidence which showed that the girls were impostors. They appear to be the daughters of an old black man now in Chelsea workhouse and an Irish woman; and they have recently conveyed pence to the

father at the workhouse. They vehemently asserted their innocence, but were told to leave the court, and to take care they were not caught bagging.

THE LONDON AND EASTERN BANKING COMPANY.—Mr. John Edward Stephens, one of the managers and shareholders of the London and Eastern Banking Corporation, is now undergoing examination in the Edinburgh Court of Bankruptcy. The notorious Colonel Waugh was connected with the same company, which was conducted on fraudulent principles, in order that the directors might appropriate the funds confided to their care. On the collapse taking place, Stephens fled to Scotland; and hence his examination at Edinburgh. Waugh is in Spain—'for the benefit of his health.'

HORRIBLE TRAGEDY NEAR CROYDON.—A Mr. William Helton Smithers, a young man employed at the Bank of England, and living at Thornton Heath, near Croydon, has poisoned his mother, his brother, and himself with prussic acid, early in the morning. The only cause at present assigned (for the inquest has not yet been held, the tragedy having only occurred on Thursday) is that the murderer had recently been very unfortunate in some speculations, and had taken to drinking largely.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

THE certificate meeting in the case of Bevan and Bevan, father and son, carrying on business as bookbinders in Chapel-street, Grosvenor-square, was held in the Court of Bankruptcy at the close of last week. The elder bankrupt said he had discounted largely with Messrs. Seale and Low, of Leicester-square, and had sometimes paid nearly fifty per cent. for accommodation. He was deficient to the extent of 629l. in 1853, when he induced his son to join him in partnership. There seems to have been great extravagance. The accounts showed an expenditure of 3940l. against 1412l. profits; and the result is that there are debts to the amount of 4000l., the assets being only about as many hundreds. The son has been living in a disreputable manner for some time past, though only twenty-seven years of age. In his examination, he said, "he had shortly before the bankruptcy borrowed money from various female servants at the West-end. Some of the money he got from the firm he gave to a Mrs. Marriott. He thought it was in Trevor-square, Knightsbridge, that he last saw Mrs. Marriott. She was the widow of Captain Marriott, and he had given her several sums of money. He was now married to a lady from the country. A cabman named Kingston had not been in the habit of driving himself and Mrs. Marriott about. He knew the Pitt's Head public-house, and had driven a lady there." Mr. Commissioner Holroyd here stopped the examination, and, in giving judgment, severely reproved the son for his mode of life. He granted him a third class certificate after three years' suspension, the first six months to be without protection. The certificate of the father was withheld altogether, as he appeared to have dealt with certain life policies in a fraudulent manner.

Six men, whose ordinary work is that of silk-weaving, were charged at Worship-street with deserting their wives and families in Bethnal-green workhouse. They stated in extenuation that they had so many stones given them to break (namely, seven bushels a day) that they found it impossible to accomplish the task. If they failed they were punished by having only very small pieces of bread given to them. One of the men produced some of these pieces before the magistrate: they were about the size of a man's thumb. Mr. Hammill, the magistrate, said it was very wrong to give men whose work is of so delicate a character as silk-weaving the same amount of stone-breaking as that allotted to labourers. He then told the accused to go before the board, and behave themselves as temperately as they had done there.

A person named Charles Pitcher, who had been part proprietor of the Berkeley Club, Albemarle-street, St. James's, and also of the Doncaster Betting-Rooms, applied in the Insolvent Debtors' Court on Monday for a final order. In the course of his examination, he said that his partner in 'the Berkeley' (which was a gaming-house) was Mr. Atkins, the individual who was sued about a year ago by a Mr. Sidebotham to recover large sums lost at play. He (the insolvent) had been in the habit of betting on the turf, and some of the debts on the schedule were balances on betting transactions. Here Mr. Commissioner Phillips stopped the examination, and dismissed the petition.

A strange case was inquired into at the Mansion-house on Monday. Mr. E. Smith, a line manufacturer in Gossett-street, Bethnal-green, filed his schedule as an insolvent debtor on Friday week, and on the following day his son received a cheque for 8l. 2s. 6d. from Messrs. Barker and Co., on behalf of the father. Immediately afterwards, a Mr. William Nairn, a merchant of George-street, Trinity-square, accused him of getting the cheque under false pretences, called him a vagabond and thief, and said the money belonged to his father's creditors, of whom he (Mr. Nairn) was one. He then, in company with two other persons, took Mr. Smith, junior, to the warehouse of a Mr. Dodd, in Arthur-street, West, kept him there for some time, and threat-

ened to lock him up or put an attachment on the cheque, if it were not given up to them. Mr. Nairn asked if Mr. Smith, junior, would change the cheque, and give him 5*l.* out of it. He refused, but ultimately gave up the entire cheque, on Mr. Nairn handing him a receipt for it, and a promise to restore it to the father if he called for it. The receipt was signed by a Mr. Fatten. The Lord Mayor was extremely indignant at such a charge having been made against Mr. Nairn, who, he thought, was entitled to the thanks of the creditors for having protected their property. A Mr. Wood, who appeared in support of the charge, contended that the money was the property of Mr. Smith until the case had been adjudicated upon by the court. He had a right to collect his debts, and the seizure of the cheque was a felonious carrying away. These opinions the Lord Mayor rather loftily and angrily 'pooh-poohed,' and said that no respectable solicitor would undertake such a case. The proceedings were 'monstrous,' and Mr. Nairn was discharged.

Joseph Coghlan, a labourer formerly in the employment of Messrs. Pratt and Sewell, contractors, of Gray's Inn-road and King's-cross, has brought an action against those gentlemen in the Court of Queen's Bench, for compensation for injuries received from a dog kept by them on their premises. He was taken to the hospital in a cab, and his employers, it was asserted, stopped 1*l.* 6*d.* out of his wages to pay for the vehicle. This, however, was denied. The dog was chained, but the chain was seven feet long, and Coghlan went too near. The defence was that the man had not exercised reasonable caution; and the jury gave a verdict for the defendants, who, through their counsel, vaguely intimated an intention to make some private arrangement.

A Mr. Jackson, a proprietor of racehorses residing in Yorkshire, has sued Mr. Edward Rawson Clarke, known as Dorsay Clarke, and also on the turf, for 100*l.* lent to him to enable him to pay a debt resulting from his having lost a bet on a certain horse. The action was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench, and the jury found for the plaintiff.

The question of crossed cheques was revived in the Court of Common Pleas on Tuesday in connexion with a case already tried, but in which, the verdict having been for the defendant, liberty was given to the plaintiff to move to enter a verdict for him. A crossed cheque had been stolen, and the words written across had been obliterated so admirably that the cheque was paid. The question now to be determined was, whether the bank or the customer should bear the loss. Mr. Justice Cresswell delivered the judgment of the court, discharging the rule, and deciding that the loss should be borne by the customer. Lord Chief Justice Cockburn concurred in this judgment, though not without some hesitation.

A Dutchman of the name of John Anthony Polso was charged last Saturday before the Marlborough-street magistrate with stealing from a French refugee, named Louis de Thouroude, an album filled with drawings, stated to be of the value of 50*l.* M. Thouroude had been banished from France about five years ago for refusing to acknowledge Louis Napoleon as Emperor, although, being a thorough Republican, he had previously taken an active part in raising him to his first rank of President. During his exile, he had made a series of views of different places on the Continent frequented by tourists. These views were cut out in variously tinted papers and made up into an album. Polso, having obtained a knowledge of this, and likewise of the circumstances in which M. Thouroude was placed, requested the latter some few weeks ago to let him have the album in order that he might show it to the authorities of the British Museum, with the view, finally, of selling it to that institution. After some wavering, M. Thouroude ultimately agreed to lend his album to the Dutchman to show to the librarian of the Museum, but not to sell it. Polso, however, appropriated it, and offered it for sale to Miss Burdett Coutts, but that lady declined to buy it, and it was therefore left with her secretary until it should be called for. When before the magistrate, Polso said that M. Thouroude had given him the album to sell for 20*l.*, in liquidation of a debt which he owed him. It was then fetched from Miss Burdett Coutts's, and, being handed to the rightful owner, the Dutchman was discharged.

Mr. Commissioner Goulburn gave judgment in the Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday in the case of Syers, Walkers, and Syers, merchants of London and Liverpool. There had been much reckless trading; but, as some of the losses were unavoidable, the certificates are of the second class, but those of the two Syers are suspended for six months, with protection. Walker received an immediate certificate.

Mr. C. T. Moon, a bookseller of Regent-street, also appeared in the Bankruptcy Court on the same day, on the occasion of his certificate meeting. The Commissioner asked to what he attributed his failure. The bankrupt replied:—"I fear to my having had too many irons in the fire." This, the Commissioner observed, is a very common case. The bankrupt had been partner in a business in Green-street, which had proved to be profitable, and had 'embarked in a restaurant,' as Mr. Lawrence, who appeared for the assignees, phrased it. This led to his bankruptcy. "Restaurant!" exclaimed the commissioner; "I do not like the term.

Restaurant! It is the last thing upon which I should think of entering. The bankrupt may take a second class certificate."

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE TRANSMISSION OF TROOPS TO INDIA.—At a meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, last Saturday, the chairman, Mr. B. M. Willcox, read the subjoined postscript to the report:—"Since the report was in print, an arrangement has been concluded for the transport of a regiment to India via Egypt; the Oriental having been sent from Calcutta to Suez for the special purpose of carrying troops. The telegraphic despatch naming the day on which this vessel was expected at Suez was only received on the 17th ult.; the directors instantly wrote to the East India Company, stating their ability to carry out 1000 men and their officers, and the offer was promptly accepted. This regiment will be conveyed to Alexandria by a screw steamer of 1800 tons chartered for the purpose, and the troops will embark at Plymouth on Tuesday next."

THE CUCKOO, which recently sank off Chatham, has been raised, but is much damaged.

DESTRUCTION OF A SHIP BY FIRE.—The Howadji, 695 tons burden, bound to Liverpool from Boston, has been struck by lightning, and burnt down to the water's edge. The crew were rescued by the Guttenberg, Captain Myers, from Hamburg. The loss is calculated at nearly 40,000*l.*

THE REINFORCEMENTS FOR INDIA.—The first draught of the new cavalry levy, in the service of the East India Company, marched last Saturday from Warley barracks to Brentwood, and thence proceeded to Tilbury and embarked on board the screw steamship Gertrude, for Calcutta. The rank and file amount to four hundred and fifty men, and these are accompanied by five officers.

THE AMERICAN STEAMSHIP ADRIATIC.—The United States' mail steamship Adriatic, Captain West, which arrived off Point Lynas on Thursday week, after a run from America of ten days four hours, has excited some attention in England on account of her large size, beauty of appearance, and excellence of arrangement.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Court removed from Windsor to Osborne on Monday. Prince Frederick William of Prussia has left England for his own country.—The Queen and Prince Albert, on Thursday, visited the new lines of defences at Gosport.

THE LEVIATHAN.—The Millwall monster—the 'Leave-her-high-and-dry-athan,' as the wits of Poplar call the reluctant marvel of shipbuilding—came to a standstill again last Saturday. On that day, the Princess Royal, attended by the Duchess of Atholl, Mr. Ormsby Gore, and an equerry, visited the yard, and, under the guidance of Mr. Brunel, looked at the wonderful ship and the wonderful machinery which seems to be so admirably adapted for not getting her into the water. Occasionally during the course of the day—but not while the Princess Royal was there—the vessel moved in irregular slips when the pressure was strongest; but for the most part she stood stockstill, and she has made scarcely any progress since then.

THE MADRAS RAILWAY.—A public dinner took place last Saturday at the Freemasons' Tavern for the purpose of presenting to Mr. G. B. Bruce, late chief engineer of the Madras Railway, an address and testimonial from the gentlemen of the company, expressive of the high esteem in which he is held by them. Mr. Robert Stephenson, M.P., presided.

THE CHURCH-RATE QUESTION.—A church-rate has been refused at Hatcham by the large majority of 295 against 56.

FIRE.—Between six and seven o'clock on Sunday morning, a fire broke out in the premises of Messrs. Parry, soap and candle manufacturers, Broadway, Deptford. The discovery of the fire was made by a policeman. The engines were soon in attendance, but the flames could not be extinguished till the melting houses were burned out, and the candle-houses and ware-rooms, as well as the stables, destroyed. A horse was burnt to death in the latter. The loss will fall on the Atlas office. Some adjoining premises were also damaged by the fire.

THE VICTORIA-STREET SEWER.—At the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works on Friday week, Mr. Thwaites in the chair, a report was read from the Committee of Works, showing that the expenses incurred in the construction and repair of the Victoria-street sewer up to October, 1857, amounted to 60,315*l.* The report stated that the invert had dropped in some places, endangering the main building of the United Service Institution and other edifices in the immediate neighbourhood, and that nothing would do but a thorough reconstruction.

THE BANK CHARTER ACT.—The Birmingham Chamber of Commerce has agreed to a petition to Government against the Bank Charter Act.

Mr. W. T. MONCRIEFF, the dramatic writer, died on Thursday week at the Charter house in his sixty-third year.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. Serjeant Pigott, of the Oxford Circuit, is appointed Recorder of Hereford.

Thomas Chown, Esq., is appointed a member of the Legislative Council of H.M.'s settlements in the Gambia. Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, at present Governor of Nova Scotia, will succeed Sir W. R. Reid as Governor of Malta. Sir Gaspard will be replaced at Halifax by Lord Mulgrave, who by this appointment vacates his seat for Scarborough. The late Mr. Norman Macdonald will be succeeded as Controller of the Lord Chamberlain's Department by Mr. Spencer Ponsonby, who has long filled the office of Private Secretary to Lord Clarendon, in which he will be succeeded by Mr. Villiers Lister. Mr. Brand, one of the Lords of the Treasury, will occupy the place of Lord Mulgrave as assistant 'whip' to Mr. Hayter.

INDIAN MUTINY RELIEF FUND.—The sum of 419*l.* 5*s.* has been forwarded to the committee, being the residue of a fund which was collected by British subjects in Russia during the late war for the relief of their fellow-countrymen who were prisoners of war in that country.

THE EAST INDIA COLLEGE, HAILEYBURY.—The half yearly examination of the students of this college took place on Monday in the library of the institution. Several members of the Court of Directors of the East India Company were present; and the chairman of the court, Mr. R. D. Mangles, presided. In addressing the students, after the delivery of the prizes, Mr. Mangles pointed out that the atrocities recently committed in India were the work of our revolted soldiers, of felons released from the gaols, and of a few territorial tribes; that the people of India had been faithful to us; and that we ought to endeavour to govern them by their affections, which he thought quite possible. The Bishop of London then made a few observations on the duty of spreading Christianity in India.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW has been on view this week, with its usual portentous forebodings of Christmas cheer. For a particular account of the noteworthy facts of the exhibition, we refer the reader to our leading columns.

THE CULTIVATION OF INDIA.—Mr. Milner Gibson, in addressing the electors and non-electors of Ashton-under-Lyne last Saturday evening, made some observations on the cultivation of the land in India. "The true material interests of the natives of India are, he believed, identical with the interests of the industrious classes in this country: if the resources of India were developed, at the same time the wages and the employment of the working classes here would be increased. (Hear, hear.) Hitherto, the English in India had been either tax-gatherers or soldiers. During the last fourteen years, according to the evidence of the chairman of the Board of Directors, before a committee of the House of Commons, the Government of India had drawn from the population no less than 300,000,000*l.* sterling. (Cries of 'Shame!') And how much did they think had been spent in improving India? 1,400,000*l.* Here is a country, one of the most fertile in the world, with a magnificent climate and labour sufficient, but wanting those things which Governments must provide in such countries, namely, roads and irrigating works. With the 300,000,000*l.* of revenue taken from the people of India, the Government ought to have done something more than they had to develop the agricultural wealth of the land. The people of Lancashire are deeply interested in this question. He had heard it said by competent authorities that cotton of any quality could be delivered in England at some 3*d.* a pound, leaving 8*d.* per acre profit to the cultivator. What is the condition of the cultivation of India? People talk about annexation—of wanting more land—while no one can deny that at present there is only one acre in four of all the cultivable land under cultivation, and in some parts of Bombay only fourteen per cent. of the land is cultivated."

HAWARDEN CHURCH.—Some woodwork designed for the interior of the new Hawarden Church was destroyed by fire at Mold, Flintshire, towards the close of last week. The church was itself burnt a few weeks ago.

IVORY PAPER.—A part of Wednesday's edition of the *Hartford Daily Courant* (says an American journal) is printed upon paper made of ivory shavings. It is said to be the first successful experiment of the kind yet attempted. In factories where ivory is worked, the accumulation of shavings is large, and heretofore they have been considered worthless. There being a good deal of fibre in these shavings, it is found that they work up very well into paper. The paper produced is not so good as that ordinarily used for newspapers, but it can probably be improved.

THE MEDITERRANEAN TELEGRAPH is now complete from Malta to Corfu.

THE BANK ISSUES INDEMNITY BILL.—This bill was issued on Monday. The preamble recites the act of 1844, and the late correspondence with the Bank. The enacting portion of the bill consists of three sections, of which the first gives validity to the issues of Bank of England notes since the 12th of last November, and all acts done in relation to them, at the same time indemnifying the Governor and Company of the Bank in respect of over issues. The second declares that the Act of 1844 shall be deemed to have been suspended since the 12th of November, so far as it limits the power of the Bank to take securities in its issue department, and further continues the suspension until the

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, December 12.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT. HOUSE OF LORDS.

AFRICAN LABOURERS IN FRENCH COLONIES.

In reply to Lord SHAFTESBURY, the Earl of CLARENDON stated that the contract entered into by the French Government for a supply of the Negro labour for their colonies in the West Indies is in course of execution. It was granted on the principle that the Negroes imported from Africa should be voluntary emigrants. This condition, it seemed to him, there could be no possibility of observing; and a similar project had been abandoned by the English Government because it had been shown that it would inevitably lead to a traffic in slaves.

THE BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

The second reading of this bill was moved by Lord STANLEY OF ALDERLEY, and, after a speech from Earl GREY was committed, read a third time, and passed. The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DRAINAGE OF THE METROPOLIS.

In answer to Mr. LAURIE, Sir BENJAMIN HALL gave a history of the disagreement between himself and the Metropolitan Board of Works with reference to the Main Drainage scheme, and said that the matter still remains undecided.

ADMISSION OF JEWS TO PARLIAMENT.

Mr. DUSCOMBE intimated that after the recess he should move that Baron Rothschild be allowed to take his seat for the City of London.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

In answer to Mr. HEADLAM, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the present state of the law of Bankruptcy is under the consideration of the Government, though no bill is yet prepared.

In answer to Mr. MILLS, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that the question of transporting mutinous Sepoys to the West Indies had been under consideration, but nothing had been yet decided.

In answer to Sir DE LACY EVANS, Sir GEORGE GREY said he should bring in a bill for the reform of the Corporation of London after the recess.

In answer to Mr. LAURIE, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that no prize money of our own treasure, retaken from the rebels in India, will be allowed.

In answer to Mr. HORSMAN, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that orders had been given to bring the King of Delhi to trial. When he was arrested, he was promised his life; so that, if he was found guilty, he would be sent out of the country.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated that a vote of money would be granted to enable Dr. Livingstone to prosecute his discoveries in Africa without any delay. The cost would not be above 5000*l*. It would be advanced out of the Civil Contingencies, to be repaid out of a regular vote in Supply.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

Lord PALMERSTON said he hoped to be able to move the adjournment for the holidays to-morrow (this day) until Thursday, the 4th of February.

GENERAL HAVELOCK'S PENSION.

Lord PALMERSTON intimated that, in compliance with the evident wish of the House, the Government had great pleasure in making the pension to General Havelock extend to two lives instead of one.

TRANSPORT OF TROOPS TO INDIA.

Mr. VERNON SMITH said that it is the intention of the Government to grant a Committee of Inquiry into the whole question of the conduct of Ministers with reference to the transport of troops to India, and the alleged delays.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE BANK ACTS.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved the re-appointment of the committee of last year to inquire into the operation of the Bank Act of 1844, with an intimation to the committee to inquire into the causes of the present commercial crises.

Mr. DISRAELI moved an amendment that no inquiry was needed into the Bank Act.

Mr. CARDWELL opposed, and Mr. GLADSTONE supported the amendment, and after some further discussion the House divided—

For the motion . . . 295

Against it . . . 117

Majority . . . 178

The House then adjourned.

INDIA.

Further telegrams have been received at the East India House. The first, dated Alexandria, December 5th, says that General Windham commands the reserve at Cawnpore, and adds:—"The accounts from Saugor and Jubbulpore are unsatisfactory. Major Erskine has earnestly demanded assistance. Brigadier Stuart's column, on its route to Mhow, has been directed to proceed thither. Mhow and Indore are quiet. No further outbreaks in Rajpootana, but the Rewah Thakoor and Jodhpore mutineers are still in force. A reinforcement of 500 infantry has proceeded from Guzerat to aid General

Lawrence. All is quiet in Bombay, with the exception of the Bheels in Khandesh who are being put down. The Genghiz Khan arrived at Bombay with a detachment of 3rd Dragoons and 86th Foot. All is quiet in Scinde and Punjab, as also in the Nizam's country."

The Foreign Office telegram, received yesterday evening, is as follows:—"Greathed's column, after the battle of Agra, was pushing on with all haste towards Cawnpore, where, on the 18th of October, Brigadier Grant, of the 9th Lancers, joined and took command. On the 23rd, they arrived at Kanauj, where the enemy was cut up by our cavalry, and five guns captured. The force, now about 3500 strong, reached Cawnpore on the 25th, and being reinforced to 5000, crossed the Ganges on the 30th, reached Alumbagh without obstruction on the 3rd, and there wait till the Commander-in-Chief joins them.

"Lucknow, said to be surrounded by 50,000 insurgents, had not been relieved at the date of the latest advices, but still held out. Our force at Alumbagh, only three miles from Lucknow, though in easy communication with Cawnpore, had not received a line from Lucknow for more than a month. Heavy fighting, with slaughter, is believed to have occurred. Sir Colin Campbell, who left Calcutta on the 27th of October, reached Cawnpore on 3rd November [with 5000 men of all arms], where he remained till the 9th, waiting, it is presumed, reinforcements, which must bring up the force at Alumbagh when he joins to close on 10,000 men.

"On the 1st of November, an action was fought near the village of Kudjnal, betwixt the Dinapore mutineers and a detachment of 800 men, consisting of part of the Naval Brigade and a detachment of the 93rd Highlanders, with two nine-pounders, under Colonel Powell, of her Majesty's 53rd Foot. Our success was complete, but our loss heavy, Colonel Powell being among the killed. The Naval Brigade afterwards fell back on Binkde with a view of returning to Futtehpore, and the rest of the troops reached Cawnpore on the 2nd.

"The Rohilcond rebels have again advanced towards Nynce Tal, and again taken to flight on finding the little force from that place approaching. Mehidpore having been attacked on the 8th of November by a body of insurgent tribes from the neighbourhood, a portion of Malwa Contingent joined the enemy, killed Captain Mills, Dr. Casey, Sergeant-Major O'Connell, and Man-sea, captured the guns, and compelled the other troops to retire. According to the latest accounts from Bombay, the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Divisions Nizam Cavalry, under Major Orr, attacked the rear-guard of the rebels on the 12th November, at Barrowal, recapturing the whole of the guns and stores taken from Mehidpore, also two of the enemy's guns, 100 of the enemy were killed, and seventy-four made prisoners. Our casualties are not yet received, but are said to be severe.

"The column under Brigadier Showers has captured Ahujur, Dadree, Nunood, and other places south-west of Delhi, securing upwards of 70,000*l*. worth of treasure. Further north, General Van Cortlandt still keeps the country in order. The district between Agra and Meerut is so quiet, that the post and passenger carriages run daily between the two places. Eastward of Oude, the Bengalese Contingent have gained two victories over bodies of the insurgents."

THE BELGIAN ELECTIONS.

The result of the elections is known in thirty-four districts out of forty-one. The Liberal candidates have been completely successful at Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, Liege, Charleroi, Bruges, Tournay, Verviers, Nivelles, and Mons. Up to the present time, the Ministry have gained twenty votes, and have attained the majority. Order has nowhere been disturbed.

THE SUNDAY QUESTION.—We are very glad to be able to announce a public discussion on this vexed question in Exeter Hall on Wednesday and Thursday evenings next. On the former evening, the proposition—"That the opening of the public museums, galleries, libraries, and gardens, after Divine service on Sunday mornings, would be in accordance with the principles of the Christian religion,"—will be affirmed by Mr. J. B. Langley, Vice-President of the National Sunday League, and negatived by the Rev. Robert Maguire, M.A., incumbent of Clerkenwell. On the latter evening, the proposition—"That the opening, &c., would tend to elevate the moral and social condition of the people" will be supported and opposed by the same gentlemen. By a very proper and prudent arrangement the promoters of these friendly discussions have secured the presence of a chairman on behalf of each speaker, and it is indeed encouraging to find so distinguished a clergyman of the Established Church, so justly eminent an authority in science, and so conspicuously learned and generous a man as the Rev. Baden Powell, supporting with his unexceptionable influence the representative of the National Sunday League. At the same time, we may congratulate the speaker on the Judaic side of the question on his conscientious fortitude in coming down from the pulpit to encounter the free expression of public opinion.

THE PRINCESS ALICE.—The hand of the Princess Alice, according to a correspondent of the *Post* at the Hague, is about to be officially demanded for the Prince of Orange.

expiration of a month after the meeting of Parliament in 1858. But if, before the expiration of this term, the Governor and Company of the Bank give public notice that they have reduced the minimum rate of interest below the rate of ten per cent., the suspension is to cease. The third section provides that, upon or before the expiration of the suspension, the excess of issues shall be reduced to the amount which would have been authorized by law if this Act had not been passed; and, subject to the indemnity and discharge hereby given, all the provisions of the said recited Act shall, after such expiration or cesser, be and remain in full force.

THE PREMIER AND THE NEWSMAN.—A few days ago, as Lord Palmerston was walking home from "business," he encountered in Parliament-street a file of those brazen-faced and brazen-voiced hawkers of false news who infest the uttermost parts of the metropolis at hush of eve. One of these organs of public misinformation, happening to recognize the ruler of English destinies, shouted out at the top of his voice (with a knowing wink to his comrades), "HIMPAWERT NOOZE! CAPSHUR OF NANA SAHIB!" Startled at this shameless fiction, the noble Premier turned sharp round, and in language not sufficiently parliamentary to suit our columns, accosted the crier as thus: "You—lying scoundrel, why do you deceive the people in this way?" "Excuse me, my lord," replied the rival bottleholder, "I'm only follering my trade, as you, my lord, foller yers!" Whether Lord Palmerston made any rejoinder the deponent sayeth not. Probably he pursued his way home muttering, *Populus vult decipi, decipiatur*. Nevertheless, we, who have not the Premier's reasons for accepting the newsman's reply, and who cannot be accused of desiring to limit the circulation of news, hold this audacious traffic to be a disgrace to a civilized capital, and a far more unbearable nuisance than the much-abused hand-organs.

DEWY FOG.—London was darkened during the greater part of Tuesday by a heavy fog, during which several accidents (though apparently none of a fatal character) occurred in the streets and on the river. Between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, the mist, from some unapparent cause, cleared off.

PORTRAIT OF PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM.—Mr. Mitchell, of Bond-street, has just published a handsome engraving from Winterhalter's portrait of the young Prussian Prince. We cannot doubt that many of our fair readers will be glad to possess a likeness of the future consort of the amiable and accomplished Princess Royal, who is soon to quit old England 'for good.'

THE IRISH PRODUCE MARKET, &c.—The commercial panic which has passed over the whole of Europe has had a bad effect on the produce markets of Ireland. Prices have fallen very much, and the farmers are considerable sufferers. There is also a great dullness of trade in the manufacturing districts in the North, and many persons are out of employ.

Mr. R. C. HILDYARD, M.P. for Whitehaven, died on Monday night in Lowndes-street.

INDIAN REFORM.—A meeting to advance the cause of a reform in the government of our Indian possessions was held on Wednesday evening at the London Tavern, Mr. Gilpin, M.P., in the chair. Several speeches were delivered by members of both Houses of Parliament, and others, and resolutions were passed and a petition to the House of Commons adopted.

MISS KEMBLE, a daughter of the late Mr. J. M. Kemble, the Anglo-Saxon historian, and a grand-daughter of Charles Kemble, will make her *début* as a singer next Wednesday in the *Messiah*, in St. Martin's Hall, under Mr. Hullah's direction.

SUICIDES.—A partner in the firm of Stott and Co., woollen-merchants at Huddersfield, named David Hoyle, was lately attacked with typhus fever, in consequence of which both his parents went one evening to his house for the purpose of remaining with him during the night, while his wife was a-bed. About one o'clock in the morning his mother began to feel some uneasiness as to the security of the house, and therefore asked her husband to go and see if all was safe. This request was complied with, and, as soon as his father was gone, Mr. Hoyle requested his mother to fetch him a crust of bread. On her return up-stairs after going down to the cellar for this purpose, she saw her son walk across the passage in his night-shirt, and open the street-door. She endeavoured to detain him, but he shook her off, and, rushing out of the house, ran across some neighbouring fields and threw himself into the Huddersfield canal.—A gentleman, supposed to be a foreigner, who about a week ago hired apartments at the Bridge-house Hotel, London-bridge, has committed suicide by hanging himself to one of the bed-posts in his chamber. As he did not make his appearance one morning as usual, the waiter went up stairs and knocked at his bedroom door. Not receiving any answer, he looked through the key-hole. What he saw induced him to send for a policeman; the door of the bedroom was forced open, and the gentleman was found hanging from the top of the bed by a silk bell-rope.—A man named James Warren has committed suicide at the village of Bury, in Yorkshire. The act is supposed to have been caused by an apprehension of poverty during the dull season which has just commenced in that district.

SWITZERLAND.—M. Furrer has been elected President of the Swiss Confederation, and M. Staemli Vice-President.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The presence of political and literary matter compels us to omit our 'Portfolio' this week.

J. F. (Stockport).—Articles exported from the Turkish dominions pay an *ad valorem* export duty of 3 per cent. and an *ad valorem* duty of 9 per cent. under the name of 'internal duty.' Imports into the Ottoman Empire are subject to a duty of 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, but, by stipulation with the Turkish Government, the *ad valorem* duty has in several instances been converted into a fixed duty. We cannot possibly find room even for an abridgment of a title of the letters we receive daily on the Monetary Question. We should have to issue a special paper currency for the lucubrations of the Inconvertibles.

Several communications unavoidably stand over. No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1857.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—*DR. ARNOLD.*

FREE TRADE IN GOLD.

WHAT is the meaning of the Mint price of gold? Why is that price fixed and unchangeable? Why is there any restriction at all upon the flow of the precious metals? Why is not the principle of commercial liberty extended to them as well as to everything else? WHY NOT FREE TRADE IN GOLD? These are questions in the mouths of a large number of thoughtful and intelligent persons at this moment of monetary excitement, and to these questions we propose to furnish our readers with what we hope will be found a satisfactory reply.

The Bank of England is compelled by PEEL'S Act to purchase any amount of gold that may be offered to it—there is no option;—and not only so, but whether gold be plentiful or scarce, one price is to be given for it,—under no conceivable circumstance can more or less be offered or received,—and that price is 3*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* per oz. To complete the bondage of the Bank—to render its apparent thralldom more oppressive—it must sell gold to any one who desires to buy; it dare not refuse, be its vaults ever so empty, be money ever so scarce, be the rate of discount ever so high; it must sell, however much against its inclination; though mercantile houses be falling, though Scotch banks be run upon, and Ireland be claiming additional specie, the Bank cannot refuse to part with its precious store to any buyer, be he native or foreigner, and it must sell at one, and only one, price—viz., 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* per oz. We repeat it, the Bank is in this respect powerless; it cannot refuse any comer; its vaults may be filled to repletion or starved to exhaustion, without its being able to say no to any buyer at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*, or to any seller at 3*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

Was this an error on the part of Sir ROBERT PEEL? Was this positive enactment of the Bill of 1844 an oversight of our celebrated free-trade Minister? Is not this compulsion to sell and this compulsion to buy—in both cases at compulsory prices—utterly inconsistent with freedom of trade? Why should we be hindered from buying our gold cheap, and selling it dear, now that restrictions are swept away, and our markets declared to be free to all the world?

The answer to these inquiries is clear and positive. This arrangement was neither an error nor an oversight—it is not inconsistent with free trade—it does not prevent Great

Britain buying gold when it is cheap and selling it when it is dear—it leaves this branch of commerce as free as every other—there is no more protection nor restriction on the price of gold than there is on the price of grain.

Let us examine this matter a little more closely, and inquire first what is meant by the Mint price of 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*—how this odd sum comes to be the perpetual price of an ounce of gold. This question being satisfactorily answered, we shall have prepared the way for the solution of the apparent paradox, that a Mint price, fixed by Act of Parliament, is consistent with a market price varying with the requirements of trade. Probably we shall put the matter in the clearest light by a very simple illustration. An Australian merchant arrives in England, bringing with him, say 480 ounces of gold—which he takes to the Mint to be coined. In due time he receives back this identical gold converted into 1869 sovereigns, wherewith he proceeds to make the various purchases or investments he intended to effect. The 480 ounces were converted into 1869 sovereigns because the Mint price is 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* per oz., and any one who will take the trouble to multiply the said price by the number of ounces (480) will find that the Authorities have delivered to our newly-arrived friend the precise amount of money he is entitled to receive. In other words, the Mint price of gold means nothing more than this—that every ounce is to be converted by the Mint into money of the amount of 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* It is not, strictly speaking, a price at all; it is the measure of gold in coined gold. It says 480 ounces shall make 1869 sovereigns—the gold in both quantities shall be identical—but the ounce must be measured into coin at a certain rate for each ounce, just as a piece of cotton must be measured into yards at a certain rate—36 inches to the yard. The 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* is the measure (in coin) of an ounce of gold, precisely as the 36 inches is the measure in length of a yard of cotton. All bargains are really for so many ounces of gold of a fineness agreed upon; if you coin an ounce into four sovereigns (instead of into 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*), the price of all articles will rise in proportion, that is, nearly three per cent. If Government were to decree that a yard should consist henceforth of 40 inches instead of 36 inches, the price would immediately rise; and what was obtainable at 9*d.* per old yard, would be at once raised to 10*d.* per yard of 40 inches.

But if, instead of taking the 480 ounces to the Mint, the owner had taken it to the Bank, he would have received only 1866*l.* in exchange for it (i. e., at the rate of 3*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* per ounce), or 3*l.* less for the whole than if it had been coined at the Mint; and he would find it more desirable to go to Threadneedle-street than to Tower-hill, because the Bank would give him the notes at once, and without any trouble or delay; a convenience well worth the difference of 3*l.* These 480 ounces pass into the Bank cellars, and are pledged for the payment of bank-notes. No use whatever can be made by the Bank of any of the gold; it must remain idle and unemployed until notes are presented to be exchanged for it. The bank-notes given for the gold are nothing more nor less than receipts of the Bank for so much gold deposited for safe custody; and it is by no means impossible that the very identical bullion might be re-delivered in exchange for the notes issued against its deposit.

In this, it is evident there is no violation of free trade; the compulsory purchase of gold by the Bank is simply that it must receive any bullion for safe keeping at the owner's

desire, issuing notes as the representatives of the said bullion. The compulsory sale of gold is nothing more than this—that when these vouchers for bullion (bank-notes) are presented at the issue department, they must be exchanged for the gold of which they are the sign, token, and receipt. The small difference between the prices 3*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* and 3*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* is the remuneration to the Bank for its trouble in the matter.

Let us look for one moment at the effect of the remedy proposed by some of our numerous currency doctors when money is scarce. They say, raise the mint price to 4*l.*, or even more per ounce, if necessary, rather than part with our bullion—that is, give our afore-said Australian friend for his bank-notes (or receipts for 480 ounces)—give him gold at the rate of 4*l.* per oz., or only 467 ounces, for the bank-notes he received in exchange for his 480 ounces. Rob him by a legislative enactment of 50*l.* of his hard-earned gold which he was simple enough to deposit at the Bank. You gave him certain vouchers for 480 ounces; tell him when he claims the gold he left with you that he can only have 467 ounces, and if he complain, the explanation is simple: there is a pressure for money in consequence of undue speculation—the loan must fall somewhere—and the speculators say it shall not fall upon them in the shape of high interest and difficulty in obtaining discounts. Formerly the powerful robbed the weak by force; in these days of commerce the subtle would defraud the simple by cunning.

But gold does really rise and fall in value just the same as any other article. The measure of its rising and falling is not gold itself, but other commodities. Whenever prices of articles fall, as they have lately fallen, what is it but that more goods can be had for the same money? what is it except that gold is scarce and in increased demand? or why will a merchant let you have a ton of sugar now for the same amount of gold that he would have demanded for 18 cwt. a short time since.

But another simple illustration will show that the price of gold does rise and fall in the market, though it is fixed at the Mint, and with this we must close our remarks.

A banker in Paris is assumed to require bullion for exchange operations. He remits to his agents here certain bills on London, which are discounted, and the proceeds sent to him in gold. The bills are exchanged for bullion. If the rate of interest be 10 per cent. (gold being scarce, i. e. dear), and the bills have three months to run, the discount on every 1000*l.* will be 25*l.* A bill for 1000*l.* is therefore exchanged for 975*l.* in gold. But if (gold being abundant, i. e. cheap), the rate of interest be only 3 per cent., the discount will be 7*l.* 10*s.* only; the bill will be sold, therefore, for 992*l.* 10*s.* in gold, or for 17*l.* 10*s.* more than in the first instance. When the rate of interest is high, gold is dear, for only 975*l.* can be got in exchange for the same article that fetches 992*l.* 10*s.* when interest is at 3 per cent. A high rate of discount, then, denotes the scarcity (in other words the dearth) of gold; a low rate of interest, of course, the reverse. Glasgow would have us remedy a scarcity of bullion by raising the Mint price to 4*l.* (that is, rob the holder of bank-notes) in order that we might keep down the rate of discount—that is, restore the principles of protection by compelling the Bank to buy bills of exchange at considerably above their value in the world's market.

TRANSMISSION OF AN ARMY TO INDIA. EARLY in July last it was declared necessary to send fifty thousand troops to India. The empire was in peril. Thousands of persons

were in danger of massacre. The Government had an alternative before it. Reinforcements might be sent through Egypt so as to arrive at their destination by the middle of August, or they might go round the Cape, to reach in November. The choice was between six weeks and five months. No one in India doubted that the overland route might be made available. Lord CANNING made arrangements for bringing the troops from Suez. Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE, so early as the end of June, telegraphed from Constantinople that he would procure from the SULTAN the necessary firman. Nothing was wanting but the acquiescence of the departments at home. The Governor-General himself reported his preparations, and waited, anxiously expecting the head of a column to appear at Suez. As the *Daily News* says, "When Lord CANNING was dictating the above paragraph, Lord PANMURE was on his way to the Moors." And what is the ministerial apology? That if we had rescued India within two months instead of six, foreign nations might have sneered at us, because we had been compelled to accept assistance from Egypt! We will not add one word to the astounding confessions of the Cabinet.

INDIAN DEBATE.

THERE have been several discussions on Indian subjects in Parliament, chiefly in the House of Lords, followed by a meeting at the London Tavern. Two objects have been kept in view: that of insisting upon a reformed government for India, and that of fixing upon particular individuals the responsibility of the Sepoy rebellion. The words of Fox, 'infamy attaches somewhere,' might form the text of the successive interrogations pressed by independent politicians on the Ministers of the Crown. These inquiries have hitherto failed, and must fail, if we depend upon the implicated bodies for evidence. They have the privilege of garbling public documents, of suppressing testimony, of intimidating witnesses—in fact, a prerogative of falsehood belongs to the Executive in Great Britain. Mr. VERNON SMITH is asked in the plainest terms whether the Board of Control had ever received any communication from India since the Marquis of DALHOUSIE's annexations, suggesting an increase of the army. He answers that nothing of the kind passed officially between the local authorities and the Board in Cannon-row. It would be a gross mistake to infer, from this, that Mr. VANSITTART's question was not one clue to the mystery of incompetence and neglect which has brought our Indian empire to the brink of ruin. Parliament, however, is satisfied, and the abortive administration of the Board of Control remains without additional censure. It is not improbable, however, that Mr. STURTE, in spite of the personal influences shielding him, will be compelled to retire from the Cabinet. Even a Whig Minister may be too hopelessly convicted to be protected by the explanations of his colleagues. Public opinion does not demand any random sacrifice. It simply protests against Mr. VERNON SMITH, who has proved himself, from first to last, incapable of understanding the Indian crisis. Lord PALMERSTON must, at length, be convinced, we should imagine, that the actual President of the Board of Control is the weak point in his government, and that to supersede him would close at least one avenue of attack during the serious months of the session after February. Until then, by general consent, the opinions of the House will not be explicitly taken on any question of permanent public interest; Lord DERRY, Lord ELLENBOROUGH, and a few other peers, have occupied the

floor of the Lords, and returns have been moved from the Commons; but if Parliament intends to act, in reality, as a high Court of Inquisition and put Ministers upon their justification, no movement will be made until after the Christmas recess.

Outside of Parliament agitation has begun. We cannot be expected to treat seriously the few raw lectures delivered at local institutions, and wound up with perorations on the salt tax, the Sadder Courts, and other topics freshly-gleaned from pamphlets and public journals; but the London Tavern assemblage was of a political character. We should have thought more highly of the statesmanship of some of the members of Parliament present had they avoided committing themselves to a set of resolutions so desultory and violent, prefaced by a series of statements, many of which were incorrect in point of fact, and suggestive of totally false inferences. It is time to reform the Government of India; but when will it be time for politicians to master the intricacies of the subject, and prepare themselves to deal with it in a manner that will not excite a smile in any one of the three Presidencies? The Wednesday meeting was told that England had taught the Sepoy that lesson of cruelty which has returned to plague the inventor. We cannot trust ourselves to characterize such an assertion. Is it impossible to desire a better Government for India than that of the East India Company without going so far as to maintain that the King of DELHI ripping open forty English women, the Delhi rebels burning their wounded prisoners, and the NANA SAHIB choking a tank with the bodies of women and children, took the policy of England as their example, and might almost plead it as their justification? The assertion refutes itself. What does the lowest demagogism ever utter that is more contemptible than this slanderous exaggeration? We do not believe that any class of Indian reformers, approaching their object in this uninformed and rancorous spirit, will accomplish much for India or England. The work to be carried out is one of permanent consolidation, and to build securely in any country of Asia is difficult enough when the builders are not Asiatics. Hitherto, the oral discussions that have taken place on Indian topics, since the outbreak of the mutiny, have been of little practical import.

THE NEW RELIGIOUS LIBERTY CLAUSE.

OUT of evil cometh good; it seems probable that the resistance offered to the very modest measure with which Lord SHAFESBURY proposes to meet the Exeter Hall case may lead to such an agitation as will increase the effect of his movement. The Special Services Committee appointed by members of the Church of England under the sanction of the Primate of all England, is thwarted in providing services according to the established forms, by the resistance of the incumbent of St. Michael's parish, who asserts the privileges conferred upon the pastor of the parish by the rule of our 'parochial system.' The members of the Church of England, clergy as well as laity, are thus precluded from offering divine service to the public in a manner which has proved at once attractive and beneficial, by the impracticability of a parish clergyman. It was supposed that Mr. ENDUART objected to the performances in Exeter Hall because they tended to draw away his own congregation; but that is not the case: he is actuated mainly by the fact that his consent was not asked this year as it was last year. The dignity of his office has not been sufficiently respected, and the entreaties of his bishop have not sufficed to bend

his inflexibility. If the pastor is answerable for the cure of souls throughout the parish, the bishop is so throughout the diocese; for the greater authority includes the less. But there are some persons, it seems, who hold that the less includes the greater, that the lower authority is higher, and that the pastor can overrule the permission of his bishop. There are bishops who think that such is not the law, and the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench is of opinion that the bishop's authority is concurrent with that of the incumbent; but, to settle all doubts, Lord SHAFESBURY has applied to Parliament. His bill only proposes to introduce, it may be said, an additional clause in the Act of 1855, 'to secure the liberty of religious worship.' That act was principally intended to exempt from penalties those who perform divine service in unconsecrated places; Lord SHAFESBURY now proposes that, except in parishes of a very small size, the incumbent should be unable to prohibit additional services save with the concurrence of his bishop. The bill, therefore, appears to amount to little more than a declaratory act; and it is specifically limited to an object which even the opponents of the particular step declare to be desirable if not necessary.

Lord SHAFESBURY is met by several objections; one, that the congregation attending divine service in Exeter Hall did not belong to the working classes, for whom the special services were designed. But this is met by positive evidence from witnesses of the highest character, who say that members of the working classes did form the mass of the congregation. Another objection is, that the bill would make an important innovation in the parochial system; but it can only operate where the parochial system is used to repel numbers of the population from the ministrations of the Church of England. The closing of Exeter Hall against the members of the Church of England has, in the first place, called forth Nonconformists to take the place of the Established clergy, with the remarkable concession which we noticed last week, that the service of the Church of England was performed by a Nonconformist minister. It has also induced the dignitaries of the Church to prepare special services in great cathedrals. It is a question how far those buildings are suited to the delivering of the voice so that it can be heard in the more open parts. But one fact is clearly established by these experiments. Members of the working classes decidedly object to go into many parish churches, where, as Lord SHAFESBURY says, they are 'pewed up to the eyes,' and where any but the pew-renters are usually represented by a few paupers. In some of the new churches there are free sittings; but here, again, members of the working class believe that they are only consulting their self-respect when they decline to be sorted away from the rest of the congregation; those who can pay for exclusiveness being penned off from the 'common people.' When buildings are open to them, as Exeter Hall has been, without the slightest distinction of rank, position, dress, or any precedence but that of 'first come first served'—when the sermons are composed with the special object of appealing to the understandings and feelings of the congregation—then a crowded congregation exhibits the interesting spectacle of high statesmen and distinguished persons mingled on the platform, or in the body of the hall, with the humblest members of the community.

Members of different sects may object seriously to the doctrines which are put forward at some of these miscellaneous meetings. Churchmen will conscientiously con-

denn some of SPURGEON's expositions; many accomplished members of the Church of England will be astounded to see the Bishop of London inducing the special congregation which he gathered round him in St. Matthew's Church, in Bethnal-green, to believe that Heaven is a city of Rest and Bliss inhabited by men in real bodies. But the appearance of a real bishop earnestly preaching hope to the neglected poor is a sight that has awakened strange feelings in Bethnal-green. We are strongly impressed with the conviction that these specialties of doctrine are more likely to be corrected, should the members of this great community be brought together under a common Christianity, than they are, while the teachers of different sects, each segregates himself into his own building and remains unquestioned amongst his chosen followers. These movements have contributed largely to nationalize our divided Church; even those who are alarmed at Lord SHAFTESBURY's proceedings in Parliament are unable to stand against the force of his movement; they cannot resist his objects—they avow they cannot. He has therefore every inducement to perseverance.

A WORD FOR THE THIEF INTEREST.

DURING the black fog which enveloped London on Tuesday last, the link-boys, it is said, reaped a rich harvest, and it is supposed that in some cases they did not content themselves with taking the property that was voluntarily given to them. They took that which they found, and sometimes that which they sought, without much regard to the original title. And why not? Why should that particular class, which is not in the most prosperous condition, abstain from 'assistance' which is largely taken by other classes? The process of appropriation may be traced through every grade of society, until it met at the two extremes. The three London thieves preying upon Lady ELLESMERE's luggage only completed the allegory. The two extremes of society prey upon each other like a two-headed serpent with both tails in each mouth—a new figure of eternity!

The peculiarity in this ELLESMERE case is, that the professors of the art of appropriation are single-minded in their trade. ATWELL, SAINT, and WHITTY, are thieves, and nothing else. They can thrive with considerable adroitness; but for want of sufficient information in other branches of their business, they are liable, poor simpletons! to be outwitted. To a great extent they have the best of society. Lady ELLESMERE's jewel-trunk is placed by her faithful servants on the top of a common cab,—about the best of all places to attract the attention of the London birds of prey. The three men see it. "May I be lagged," cries WHITTY, "but I'll have the big un!" meaning the jewel-trunk, which he chose rather than another simply on account of its size. He seizes the trunk in the middle of the street; the cab is stopped by the jerk and the horse rears, but nobody takes any notice. The nearest policeman, intent on maintaining his deportment, has no thought for portmanteaus. Lady ELLESMERE's treasury remains in the hands of Mr. WHITTY and his two partners. They carry it to the house of Mr. JACKSON.

Now here we rise in society. Mr. JACKSON is not only a fence, but he is an oil and colourman in Leonard-street, Shoreditch; and it is curious to see how this more educated man employed his better information of the world to outshine WHITTY. The poor thieves, who knew no better, were almost prepared to sell him Lady ELLESMERE's treasury, valued at some 15,000*l.* or so, for 40*l.*, at which he valued it. WHITTY had already sold a diamond butterfly, value

50*l.*, to Mrs. JACKSON for 2*s.*; but that appears to have been in a great degree under the force of the same politeness which made JACKSON himself concede a pair of Lady ELLESMERE's stays to WHITTY to be presented 'to a lady named POLLY GENTLEMAN.' ATWELL, SAINT, and WHITTY were not quite so green as JACKSON took them for; but still the oil and colourman succeeded in obtaining the property at what linendrapers call 'ruinous prices.' But a reward is offered; and if the poor thieves are the first seized by the police—throwing away in their flight, as HORACE did his shield, some portion of their spoils—even JACKSON and his wife are ultimately placed before a police-court. In that grade of society men do not understand how to play the part of fence or 'unlicensed pawnbrokers,' as Mr. HENLEY calls them, without rubbing against the letter of the law.

A step higher brings us to Mr. JAMES EDWARD STEPHENS, who has just been accounting for his own bankruptcy before the Sheriff Substitute at Edinburgh. Mr. STEPHENS's proper business was that of surgeon in the Indian army; in India he made acquaintance with 'Colonel' WAUGH; but being an enterprising man, after his return from India, in 1850, STEPHENS became manager of the London and Eastern Banking Company; and he 'managed' to some purpose. Still the genius of STEPHENS, however, was undeveloped, until he again encountered Colonel WAUGH, now owner of Branksea Island and Castle, and projecting his celebrated 'clay and brick works.' The Colonel wanted a bank, STEPHENS wanted the spark of inspiration; and from that moment the manager branched out into other businesses. He and the Colonel became 'the Branksea Clay Company'; he and a Mr. LATTEY became 'LATTEY and Co., carrying on the watchmaking business of BARWISE and Co., Piccadilly, London.' He and Mr. JAMES BLACK became the lessees of 'LETT's wharf'; he and the same Mr. JAMES BLACK became 'MINTER and Co., upholsterers, in Frith-street, Soho-square, London'; BLACK being also 'TOWNS and Co., pianoforte dealers. Capital was required for all these purposes, but it was easily obtained from the bank. LETT's wharf alone obtained sums to the amount of 23,000*l.* beyond the sums paid back. This is the principle: Mr. JAMES EDWARD STEPHENS only obtained his tens of thousands, Colonel WAUGH obtained his hundreds of thousands.

Messrs. SYERS, WALKER, and SYERS, who obtained a certificate in the Court of Bankruptcy the other day, had been trading for two years to the extent of 1,000,000*l.* sterling without any capital. So said Mr. Commissioner GOULBURN, and he seemed surprised and hurt at the fact; though a man on his bench ought to be hardened to these illustrations of the prevalent principles.

We have not yet reached the top of the scale. We find trading corporations called banks which dispose of millions sterling; some of these trusted depositories have been the means of employing many persons' money in wild speculations for the benefit of others, yet they have even, after the fact, received formal testimonials from great public assemblies attended by dukes, lords, merchants, and manufacturers. Perhaps there are reasons for this sympathy. If the banks have used the money in speculation, so have merchants, so have manufacturers. The great object of British commerce is to get hold of capital, and lately it has not been thought necessary to inquire too closely to whom the capital belongs. 'Take any man's horses,'—take any countess's trunks. Why, then, are we so severe upon the thieves?

Really, the traits which strike us in their conduct as most peculiar to themselves are the simplicity of their character, the moderation of their levies.

THE OATHS BILL DEBATE.

SOME spirited remarks by two or three young members were the only reliefs to the apathetic monotony of Thursday's debate. It was felt that a comedy was being enacted, in which the leading parts were filled by the Premier and his 'noble friend.' Lord PALMERSTON sat the whole evening in slumber, real or affected, as if mesmerized by the Conservative minority. Not an utterance came from the Treasury Bench, not even the oracular response of a snore. We admire the First Minister's complacency, and his pleasant, lively way of keeping the House of Commons at an easy trot. By critics less forbearing than ourselves he is said to deal, with respect to foreign affairs, in a policy of bluster; in that case, his chaff is probably intended for home consumption. How much of that material will be manufactured before there comes a glut in the market? Lord PALMERSTON gives up the principle of religious liberty; Lord JOHN RUSSELL dandles it as though he were its grandfather; Baron ROTHSCHILD is dissatisfied—though he himself is no AJAX in the cause of his co-religionists; and we are all left to wonder why we have a House of Commons, and where the gentlemen are who flourished so many heroic trumpets on the hustings.

LORD PALMERSTON'S CITIZENS AT NAPLES.

WHILE Lord PALMERSTON was 'satisfying' the House of Commons that no outrage had been committed on British subjects at Naples, the *Daily News* was confirming the worst that had been alleged. The statement need not be repeated in detail. Its truth has been substantially admitted by the Premier himself, who would do well, in future, to rely less upon official misinformation and more upon 'anonymous writers.' A distinct public recognition, however, is due to the *Daily News* for the force and persistency with which it has kept this question alive. Had not its correspondent contradicted the Government version, and forced Lord PALMERSTON to admit his error, there would have been nothing to show that the imprisoned engineers had been barbarously maltreated. We have ourselves repeatedly returned to the matter, and we confess, after so many complaints, it was somewhat startling to hear the First Minister of the Crown quoting the testimony of the engineers themselves, to demonstrate that they had met with nothing but kindness and courtesy. Happily more authentic evidence was at hand, and Lord PALMERSTON, upon the next opportunity, was drawn into an invective against the authorities he had been defending. But where is the Newcastle petition? Will not some independent member move that it be printed, if only to put himself in order while claiming the attention of the House to this flagrant case? It is very unsatisfactory to have such questions disposed of by friendly arrangement. There is always some stirrup-holder of the Government ready to point a discreet question at the Treasury Bench; but when a Liberal member rises, as Mr. CONINGHAM did, to declare that 'the lives and liberties of Englishmen are not to be trifled with in this way,' the rules of the House are enforced to stifle discussion. Now, this will not do. Lord PALMERSTON may be a very successful State wizard, with a body of confederates in the pit, and *sonffleurs* in abundance to assist him in deceiving the public; if no one is to speak, however, without a previous understanding with the Government, such a political underplot may amuse the House of Commons; but we appeal from that club-house to the constituencies. The apathy and indifference of Parliament would be sufficient to bring representative institutions into contempt throughout Europe, were it not that there is some possibility of a reform, demanded out of doors, and carried by popular pressure. The House of Commons, no doubt, is callous on the subject, and is actuated less by its pledges than by the dread of a dissolution, the charm which Mr. HATYER employs to quell any rising turbulence on the Opposition and independent benches. It is the silence of the few that screens the hypocrisy of the many. A motion in connexion with the imprisonment and cruel usage of two Englishmen at Naples would, at all events, act as a test. Perhaps it might at length

prove to the Liberal party throughout England that the Reform Bill of 1832 is worn out, and that the House of Commons is false to its very heart, selfish, cowardly, and supremely incapable. Lord PALMERSTON rises in his place, recants a former statement, confesses that two British subjects have been so brutally treated at Naples that one of them was driven to commit suicide, and the only voice of protest heard is silenced by shouts of 'Order.' The exhibition is most discreditable to Parliament, most insulting to the country. We recommend the Newcastle public to renew their agitation, and to force the rights and claims of their unhappy townsmen upon the attention of the Legislature.

PUBLIC SPIRIT IN FRANCE.

The English public naturally watches with interest the perils and adventures encountered by the Liberal press in France in its difficult navigation through the narrow straits to which Imperial will confines it. Nor are we at all exclusive in this matter. By 'liberal' we do not understand any particular section of the Opposition of whose principles we more especially approve. Wherever there is an aspiration for liberty, or even for regular and legal existence under a form of government recognized by modern philosophy and identified with the tradition of a powerful and respectable class, we are always willing to direct our sympathies. When the *Spektateur*, having risen from the ashes of the *Assemblée Nationale*—suppressed by the police—was threatened in its existence recently by a 'warning' for some harmless pleasantries on the guests of Compiegne, and when the *Gazette du Languedoc*, a Legitimist journal, was definitively crushed, we felt as if the reign of violence was extending, and as if our own friends had received the blow.

But the suppression of *La Presse* for two months is with reason regarded as the most significant and important fact in this war of free thought and expression with angry and irresponsible power, that has occurred since the *coup d'état*. Lovers of coincidence point out that it was on the Second of December that the obnoxious article by M. PEYRAT was written. It is more worthy of remark that, during the few days that have elapsed since this exertion of arbitrary power, a feeling of desolation has come over the Paris public. Although nothing can be more distinct in character than the two periods, people constantly refer back from the present to the terrible June days of 1848—the only other occasion on which *La Presse* has ceased to be cried on the Boulevards. To give an idea of the number of people who are daily annoyed, and reminded by this circumstance alone of the stern régime under which they live, it will be sufficient to mention that the number containing the article for which the journal was suppressed, sold that evening fourteen thousand two hundred copies in the streets and on the boulevards of Paris, in addition to those supplied to town and country subscribers, cafés, &c., which form of course the chief circulation.

The obnoxious number was not seized. The subject was the elections. The object was to condemn abstention. The tone did not strike the inferior Censor as dangerous. It was M. BILLAULT himself who denounced the article. A council was called to deliberate on the course to pursue. The suppression was hastily resolved, and will be as leisurely repealed.

For it is not a light matter to strike out of existence, permanently or for two months, the principal journal of a country. Imagine England waking up and finding itself deprived of the *Times*! If anything could provoke us to revolution, assuredly that would. The disappearance of the *Presse* is not quite so serious. Still, it is a fact of a very important character. All the subscribers are up in arms, and eager to seize this opportunity of making a sort of political demonstration. The proprietors have sent out a circular, stating that at the end of two months the distribution of the journal will be recommenced as if those two months had never existed, so that they and not the subscribers will be the losers. The answer is a shoal of letters, containing offers to repeat the payment, and the warmest encouragements to the editor to proceed as he has begun. So far from the suspension of the *Presse* causing it any pecuniary damage, it will probably augment its resources—certainly its reputation.

That is, if matters are allowed to take their natural course. The situation of the *Presse* at the present moment is peculiar. Our readers will remember that recently much noise was made about

the purchase of the journal from M. DE GIRARDIN by M. MILLAUD, a suddenly enriched speculator, who, it was supposed, did not want this property so much for the political as for the industrial influence it would give. It was expected every day that a new colour would be given to the articles; but this was not the case. Indeed it was noticed that a wearisome series of lucubrations on matters of trade began to make way for more popular topics. This indifference of M. MILLAUD astonished, and made people fancy he was playing some very diabolical game. But the truth was brought out the other day before the Tribunal de Commerce. M. MILLAUD imagined that in buying the principal part of the shares, and the title of *gérant*, he had acquired complete influence over the paper, with the right to name himself or another as chief editor. Not so. The company still remained under the title of ROUY et C^{ie}; and M. ROUY, invested with the name and the power of principal manager, asserted his right to govern all matters connected with the paper, editorial or not. M. MILLAUD, therefore, found that instead of purchasing the cleverness or the influence of M. DE GIRARDIN, he had simply purchased shares in a speculation which returned twelve or fifteen per cent., but in the management of which he was not allowed to interfere in the slightest degree.

Wealth is proud as well as genius. M. MILLAUD could not submit to this disappointment, and determined to try whether he could not by degrees, as principal proprietor, obtain the influence which was denied him in the bond. Matters came to a crisis when M. PEYRAT was named by M. ROUY Chief Editor. M. MILLAUD had no personal objection to make. He knew the ability, the honesty, and the stainless dignity of the new editor, and wrote to him in his own name conferring the appointment which had already been conferred by the competent person. Hence the trial which has now to be decided. A provisional decision has maintained M. ROUY in his post, invested with all the rights he claims; but this is only that the property implicated may not suffer. Next week the tribunal will decide.

At first the question, in so far as the public is concerned, was of slight importance. Provided M. PEYRAT remained Editor of the *Presse*, it little mattered from whom he received his appointment. It seems evident that M. DE GIRARDIN meant to sell, and the impatient speculator thought to buy, not only shares in the journal, but the right to edit it. We shall soon see whether one has not sold and the other bought what was not in the market. All this appears, no doubt, very mystical and confused to English readers, who forget the peculiar state of the press in France, that every paper is obliged to propose a *gérant* to Government and wait on its acceptance, and that, in order to deprive M. ROUY (unless that gentleman has totally misunderstood his position) of the right to name an editor, a dissolution of partnership must take place.

But since the attitude taken by M. PEYRAT and the ill-advised conduct of the Government, all these minor points disappear. It was at first rumoured that the suppression of the paper was in some way connected with the dispute we have related—that there were tricks on this side and tricks on that—that Prince NAPOLEON was mixed up in the intrigue, now as the patron of M. PEYRAT, now as his adversary. Nothing of all this is true. The *arrêté* of M. BILLAULT was intended simply to warn the Liberal party that, although the Government might affect to desire the revival of political life and movement, there was nothing in reality it so much feared. The Emperor himself is reported to have said, with reference to this discussion: "No enemies to institutions are so dangerous as those who affect to acknowledge in order to destroy them. I would rather see the Republicans behind the barricades than in the Corps Législatif. We have cannon for them in the one case; but what can we do against them in the other?" The impression that this is the view of the Government is now so strong, that M. HÉNON, who in taking the oath plainly admitted his hostility, though at first lampooned, is now held up as a model. We shall have no more refusals of the oath. This is well. It was a step to abandon the system of abstention and come up to the polling-places. It is another step—after the example of the refusal of the oath has been given repeatedly—to set aside squeamish scruples, and endeavour to get within arm's length of the common foe—irresponsible authority.

M. PEYRAT wrote in this sense, though so moderately, that many people supposed he only intended a 'dynastic opposition,' with Prince NAPO-

LEON at its head—a sort of parody of the Whigs patronized by Prince GEORGE. We are not surprised, therefore, that M. MILLAUD has just sent into Court a fresh accusation against M. ROUY, asking for enormous damages, and accusing him of having named as *rédacteur en chef* of the *Presse* a well-known revolutionist, and a factious opponent of the Government! This is rather too bad after the letters—which have all been handed into Court—in which M. MILLAUD, a month ago, disputed with M. ROUY the honour of choosing so distinguished a man. But we know that when capitalists are in a passion they can not only say hard things, but strike hard blows—witness MM. MIRKS and MILLAUD in the *foyer* of the Gymnase, venting their mutual wrath, utterly unmindful that all Paris next day would be laughing at them. We shall wait the report of this trial with curiosity.

Meanwhile, the Paris public has not been led astray. With admirable tact, as soon as the suspension of the *Presse* became known, first one person, then another, without communication, in different quarters, suggested that M. PEYRAT, in whose person journalism had been attacked, should be chosen as Opposition candidate for one of the circumscriptions of Paris in the approaching election. In a very few days a sort of movement had taken place, and something like a result had been come to. Proposals were made by the third circumscription, vacant by the death of General CAVAGNAC, and by the sixth, vacant by the resignation of M. GOUDCHAUX. Decisive energy was displayed by the fifth. Several deputations from that quarter have waited on M. PEYRAT, and there can be little doubt that he will not only accept the contest, but obtain a triumphant vindication. We know that at present free men can be of slight use in the Corps Législatif—the *procès-verbal* of the *Moniteur* of this last petty session informs us how poor M. OLLIVIER was pook-pooked by M. DE MORNY for imagining himself in the *Assemblée Nationale* of old—but their numbers will gradually increase. Let once the country become accustomed to these electoral contests, leading to some practical result, and a good minority may at length be elected which, multiplied in strength by its virtue and its genius, may overawe the hirling multitude that cringes to the President's voice and votes 'with enthusiasm' all decrees submitted to it in the dress of 'laws.'

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE-SHOW.

Justice Shallow.—How a score of ewes now?

Silence.—Thereafter as may be; a score of good ewes may be worth ten pounds.

SHAKESPEARE.—Henry IV.

THE gifted son of the Stratford woolstapler and butcher—for in a small country-town the two callings were and are identical—has put on record the price of one class of farm produce in the days of merry Queen Bess. The best pasture-land then paying from half-a-crown to five shillings per acre; prime grass-fed five-year-old wethers could be purchased at the rate of two for a twenty-shilling gold piece. Mangolds, swedes, cow-cabbage, and oil-cake—the mainstay of modern graziers—were unknown. JACOB TUSSEY, a quaint writer of SHAKESPEARE'S age, ever and anon, in his *Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry*, laments over the losses and crosses endured by himself and neighbours when a dry, ungenial autumn destroyed their hopes of abundant aftergrass. They had nothing to fall back on. Hence arose the thrifty custom, still prevalent in remote country places, of killing an ox about Christmas when he had arrived at a condition which, from the precarious supply of fodder, could not be maintained. Having thus provided for his own domestic wants, the farmer drove the remainder of his lean, half-starved stock to the city, there to dispose of them for whatever he could get, and where they were immediately slaughtered for the salting-tubs. In fact, our ancestors, even of the highest rank and fortune, consumed very little fresh meat; and the entries in the 'household book' of the great Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND describe his Grace and Duchess, sons, daughters, and suite, living on corned beef and mutton for three parts of the year, with salted herrings and stockfish on the *jours maigres* of Old Mother Church. Such was husbandry three centuries ago.

GEORGE III., in his maturer years, gave the first impulse to the march towards that perfection, to which, in breeding animals destined for human food, we are doubtless rapidly advancing. His tastes were decidedly for bucolic life: and the royal example speedily influenced the noblest and wealthiest of the land. Rising from some long and

irksome debate of the St. James's Privy Council, "Farmer Groom" was speedily in the saddle—for he always rode his hunter to and from Windsor-trotting leisurely along, until he spied in advance some little knot of countrymen on their return, perhaps, from Smithfield Cattle Market. Setting spurs to his horse, he was speedily in the midst of them. CHATHAM and the Transatlantic squabble were given to the four winds, and literally, in the words of our motto at the head of this article, he commenced a series of queries about the quality, quantity, and prices of stock, with a volubility which seemed to disregard reply, and indeed rendered it impossible.

The PRINCE CONSORT has, from the commencement of his connexion with this country, manifested a similar penchant for the noblest of the arts of peace. Hitherto his judgment in selecting animals designed for the Smithfield Cattle Show has been as lucky as that of his Royal Consort in choosing a day for her open-air exercise. But the Club is now resolved on a wider field of operation. The interest of the exhibition will hereafter no longer be absorbed by the few favourite breeds—such as his Royal Highness and Mr. HEATH'S Devons and Herefords; the Duke of BEAUFORT'S, Earl SPENCER'S, Lord LEIGH'S, and Mr. STRATTON'S short horns. The list of even this year comprises long horns, Scotch horned, Scotch polled, Irish, Welsh, Norfolk, and Suffolk or Sussex beasts; with the usual class for extra stock. Four classes are devoted to the Devons, Herefords, and short horns. The cross-breeds have three, and the other breeds two classes each. In reference to the prizes, 405*l.* and twelve silver medals have been awarded to the Devons, Herefords, and short horns. The Scotch, Irish, and Welsh, with the cross breeds, carry away 315*l.* and seventeen medals as their share. One point we observed as especially corroborative of an opinion we have entertained, that English stock-breeders are at length alive to what constitutes their own and the public advantage in reference to the particular department of rural economy to which they devote themselves. Greater anxiety is manifested to attain perfection in shape and symmetry, than to overload the animal with a burden of useless fat. It is pleasing also to note, that the judges have so promptly given to this important step in the right direction the impress of their authority and approbation. Awards are no longer made as an encouragement to the creation of huge fatty bumps and excrescences all over an animal's body; shape and quality receive their meed of praise; and feeding seems to be more and more regulated by the desire to produce a carcass profitable to the butcher and consumer—not merely to the tallow merchant. In short, animals are no longer prized for the exhibition of fat, but for their obvious capability of fattening. Moreover, no possible advantage can accrue to the farmer from breeding what is called in and in, for why should we scrupulously maintain a purity of blood, when crossing has been made to exhibit the happiest results?

It will, doubtless, be remembered that last year's exhibition was characterized rather by a certain average excellence than by any individual superiority. There are certainly this year no huge, asthmatic mountains of tallow, but, in its stead, plenty of substance—beef and beauty. We saw no one animal which, judged apart from the rest and on its own merits, would be considered an inferior specimen, or that was not, in the words of an old rustic saw,

A grazier's without, and a butcher's within.

One exception, however—and it is the exception that proves the rule—must be allowed in reference to the Scotch polled. These black, hirsute monsters, seemed a mere agglomeration of suet; "More like hippopotamuses than oxen!" as we once overheard a countryman observe, in the purest 'Zam-metshire' Doric.

In the cattle shows of former years, one capital defect was too obvious in many of the Devons exhibited. We mean a certain unsightly lankness of hind quarter. Far less of this is now visible. There is more promise of beef. Hereafter, in all our great cattle prize contests, quality, not size or weight, will be justly received as the only proper criterion of superiority.

The Hereford breed of oxen is worthy of special commendation, and the cows are even more beautiful than the oxen. But the pride of this portion of the show is No. 56, of Class 7, bred by Mr. WILLIAM RACSTER, of Withington Court, near Hereford; exhibitor, Mr. HENRY HIGGINS, of

Woolaston Grange, near Lydney, who received a first class prize of 15*l.*, and the breeder a silver medal. Many, like ourselves, will be inclined to quarrel with the judges for not making this award 25*l.* In the judgment of breeders and agriculturists this was regarded a perfect specimen of its class, exhibiting the very best points of breed and feed. Well clothed with meat, and promising noble rounds and rich, juicy, finely grained sirloins, it is not so fattened as to conceal its natural symmetry.

One remarkable steer of Class 10, short only in horns—for he towers like a hillock above the adjacent beasts—had a continual succession of admiring visitors. Most of his merits, however, lay in his giant proportions, he being far from handsome, and certainly not in 'extra' condition. We recollect seeing a much larger and heavier beast—perhaps from the Ukraine—in the stall for pet farm stock, situated in the Park of Sarsko Selo, near St. Petersburg. The farmer stated his weight to be 3000*lbs.*, and that the Emperor designed sending him to the Smithfield Show of that year—1847.

The Sheep stock is, perhaps, more numerous than that of last year. The 'Downs' bred by the Duke of RICHMOND and Lord WALSHINGHAM have the attributes of quality, beauty, and just proportions which belong to first-rate mutton. The cross breeds are greatly improved, their form and outline good. Indeed, perhaps they were the best specimens, and prove that this breed may be advantageously contrasted with sheep of the purest race.

The pigs number 120, besides 10 extraspecimens. Finer, but not fatter, have been penned at this show in former years. Huge specimens of the porcine genus, some of them are perfectly white, some dark and grisly as the wild boar. They seem mere shapeless masses of lard, and are enough to make one forswear pork—in *secula seculorum*. Certainly, nothing further could be done to aid the process of fat-making in his department; still, their short and fleshy hind-quarters show what may be effected by careful crossing; the more obvious to ourselves, who have shot and hunted the descendants of 'Capinny COOKE'S pigs,' so named by the Maori of New Zealand. Long-legged and lank as greyhounds, still they were probably fair specimens of the best breed known in England when the great navigator visited the Pacific about A.D. 1776.

A miscellaneous collection of roots and cereals from the Royal Dublin Society attracted a crowd of curious spectators. There are gigantic parsnips and carrots; mangolds and turnips equally so. A young inquisitive damsel, who doubtless was familiar with the chiming of Bow bells, ran up, exclaiming to her party in reference to the turnips, "Dear! see! here are sheep's heads." Messrs. GIBBS, of Halfmoon-street, have also an extraordinary show.

In the instrument department, the galleries exhibit a bewildering chaos of the most ingenious, often most beautiful contrivances for abridging human toil. There are STIRLING'S steam-plough and portable steam-engines; WARNER'S one horse-power irrigator; LYONS'S steamed root and vegetable pulper—used four times a week, it feeds two hundred pigs; WILLIAMS'S diagonal harrows, an undoubted improvement on the elder fashion, and chaff-cutters of the most improved and efficient construction. These agricultural aids, costly only at first, cheap in the end, lose none of their interest to us from repeated inspection. We are old enough to remember when broad cast was universal; the best farms had no more efficient clod-crusher than the trunk of an old tree, when the chaff-cutter worked by hand and knife, and turnips (mangold being unknown) were sliced by means of a spade! *Nous avons changé tout cela.*

THE SIAMESE EMBASSY.

THE Embassy from Siam may have its farcical aspect; but it is, nevertheless, an important incident in the history of our transactions with Asia. Maids of honour and gold sticks in waiting tittered as the jewel-bearing envoys saluted the British throne after the peculiar fashion of their race. There could scarcely be a more conclusive proof of the power of self-deception. The public, not tutored in royal ceremonies, has a right to make merry with a group of ambassadors advancing in their own fashion (the fashion of tortoiseshells also) to lay the tribute of an Oriental kingdom at the feet of our QUEEN. But why should courtiers laugh? Why should the Lord Chamberlain be scornful—he who walks backwards out of the presence-chamber?

Why should the German prints describe the same as comic beyond all conception? Five gentlemen from Siam creeping over a palace carpet might be moved to inextinguishable laughter by the sight of sixteen Prussian gentlemen dancing backwards, with tapers in their hands, before a prince and princess at Berlin. Lord GRANGEVILLE and the Count DE MORNAY stood at the table of ALEXANDER II. while he dined. The West had its eccentricities as the East has. Therefore it is wise, especially in courtiers, not to suggest sarcasms upon the demeanour of ambassadors presenting themselves to 'Majesty.' The Siamese Envoys have come from the far East upon a serious mission, which is likely to result in much political and commercial advantage to this country. For many years attempts had been made to open up relations with the Court of Siam. Sir JAMES BROOKES, during the late reign, visited the country, and not only failed to conclude a treaty, but met with a discourteous reception, some gentlemen in his suite being placed in actual danger by the brutality of the populace. The present First King is a man of superior education, and his friendly disposition is not unimportant at this juncture, considering the contiguity of his territory with those of Burmah, and the influence exercised by Siam over the large seaboard range as far as the limits of Tonquin and Cochinchina. With those countries our trade is extremely restricted, but is capable of great extension. We have no doubt that merchants interested in the sea-going commerce of Asia regard with great satisfaction the friendly intercourse inaugurated between Great Britain and Siam.

AUSTRALIA.—The condition of the people at Melbourne is better than when the previous news was received from Australia. The Government has provided temporary work for a large number of the unemployed, and others have found work in private establishments. Still, according to the *Melbourne Age*, "Victoria is receiving from the Old World more immigrants than is the present condition of our land system, she can readily absorb. It is calculated that at least 30,000 have been added to our population during the past year, and immigrants are still pouring in at the rate of 1000 a week. If the land question were settled on a legitimate basis, this would be a source of real pleasure and profit to the country; but, under existing circumstances, the emigrant, full of hope and enthusiasm upon landing here, too frequently quails before the impediments cast in the way of honest industry." Collisions continue to occur between the Chinese and Europeans at the gold fields. Mr. Haines has obtained the sanction of the House of Assembly to withdraw his 'Bill to provide for the residence of the Chinese in Victoria'; but some kind of legislation on the subject, with a view to checking Chinese immigration, will probably soon take place. A Mr. John Oakes has been lately in Goulburn, purchasing horses suitable for service in India, and the subject has been brought before the attention of the Legislative Council of South Australia, in order that Government facilities may be given for shipping one hundred horses.

STRANGE OCCURRENCE.—A young lady was taken by rail from London to Folkestone about a fortnight ago, in so utter a state of helplessness that she was quite speechless. She was placed in the carriage at London by a person who gave the guard a sovereign to procure her any refreshment she might want on the journey; and she had some tea in the waiting-room. On arriving at Folkestone, she was taken on board the Boulogne boat by one of the harbour policemen, and placed in the ladies' cabin, where she was kindly attended to by the passengers; but she expired at Boulogne. A large label was found fastened to her dress, and in her purse (which contained 7*l.*) was found a piece of paper, stating that she was a governess, and that she was going to her brother-in-law at Amiens. Her friends were telegraphed to, and proceeded to Boulogne, but too late.

THE LADIES OF ST. MARGARET'S.—Archdeacon Otter has addressed a letter to Miss Groom, the Lady Superior of St. Margaret's, East Grinstead, in which he says:—"It is with great pain that I perform the necessary duty of requesting that you will remove my name from the list of the supporters of St. Margaret's Home. The withdrawal of the Bishop's sanction would alone have compelled me to take this step. I could not, with a due regard to his authority, have continued to support an institution which had fallen under his disapproval. But I must also declare that my own judgment leads me to the same conclusion, and that my convictions are in full accordance with the sentiments expressed in his Lordship's letter to you. This duty performed, I gladly turn to another, which is to state that my sense of personal obligation towards your society remains unaltered. The conduct of the two sisters who have been employed as nurses in my parish has been such as to claim my unqualified admiration and regard."

A READING ROOM AT A MANUFACTORY.—The workmen at Messrs. Mandel and Co.'s, engineers, Lambeth, have held a general meeting at which they adopted an address of thanks to their employers for giving them a well-furnished and lighted reading-room and library.

Literature.

critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review.*

Messrs. SMITH and ELDER have just issued a new edition of Mr. THACKERAY's *Esmond* in a single volume, uniform with the volumes of his collected *Miscellanies*. This is a seasonable publication to those of Mr. THACKERAY's admirers who may not already have on their shelves his first, and, as yet, only complete historic novel. They will be glad to possess and re-read it again for its own sake, and as a necessary introduction to the *Virginians*. While all Mr. THACKERAY's works deserve not only to be read but to be studied, *Esmond* has special claims to careful perusal. Its publication constituted a new era in his career as a writer of fiction. The 'Story of Queen Anne's Reign' was new both in the subject and the way of treatment. Hitherto his stories had been confined to the severely faithful portraiture of existing society, but in *Esmond* he appeared as an historic novelist. The task the great humorist now proposed to himself was evidently a wider and nobler one than any yet accomplished. He intended to sketch not only contemporary manners, but the previous state of society out of which they had arisen, to become, in the largest sense, the painter of modern English life. With this object in view, he naturally began at the commencement of the eighteenth century, the revolution of 1688 being the gulf which separates the old forms of English life and society from the new. This was a period, too, peculiarly favourable for the exercise of his art. To the novelists of action and passion, who naturally seek the materials of their stories in the stormy periods of war and bloodshed, of revolution and violent social changes, the reign of Queen ANNE is at best but a barren era. But THACKERAY is quite at home in the brilliant routine of that artificial and highly polished society. He is characteristically the painter, not of humanity simply, or of the passions in their most natural manifestation, but of man as seen in society, and of the passions as developed under special social forms. This is, in fact, the main difference between the two great novelists of the day. With all his accumulation of characteristic detail, DICKENS is the poet, not of society, but of humanity, finding in the lowest walks of common life—amongst the outcasts of society beneath the rags and filth—something to reverence and love. THACKERAY is the poet of society, looking for the true feeling and manly action that exist amidst its frivolities and hypocrisies, and picturing with truthful clarity what he finds. The more artificial and elaborate any state of society is, the more rich and tempting the materials it affords to one able to use them aright. And THACKERAY is at home amongst the wits of Queen ANNE's reign, not simply because he sympathizes with their way of life but also because he shares their peculiar powers, combining in a rare degree with the satiric force of SWIFT, STEEL's kindly humour and ANDERSON's fine reflectiveness. The latter qualities in particular are more largely developed in *Esmond* than in the author's earlier works. Both the subject chosen, and the way of treatment adopted, favoured this change. In the autobiography of a noble-minded but saddened man, a good deal of quaint and serious reflection was natural enough, while the tone adopted throughout was far more tender and sad than bitter and satirical. This naturally disappointed many of THACKERAY's early admirers, who missed in *Esmond* the force and sarcastic bitterness that had specially delighted them in *Vanities Fair*. But, notwithstanding this, the circle of THACKERAY's readers was much increased by the publication of *Esmond*, many of his old enemies in the sentimental classes having been won over by its scenes of tenderness and sorrow.

But apart from its special merits, *Esmond* must be read just now as an introduction to the *Virginians*. It is quite impossible fully to understand and enjoy the latter story without a good knowledge of the former. The two numbers of the *Virginians* already published abound with references which can only be properly appreciated by those who have the previous history of the Esmond family fresh in their recollection. The new tale is in the strictest sense the sequel of the old, not only introducing the same characters, but continuing their history at a later period; the intermediate events being briefly indicated as connecting links. Curiously enough, too, a promise or prophecy of the *Virginians* is given in *Esmond*. The germ of the story is evidently the following passage, which occurs in the touching dialogue between Beatrix and Esmond, in which he finally resumes his hopeless suit:—

"You have had my heart ever since then, such as it was; and such as you were, I cared for no other woman. What little reputation I have won, it was that you might be pleased with it; and, indeed, it is not much; and I think a hundred fools in the army have got and deserved quite as much. Was there something in the air of that dismal old Castlewood that made us all gloomy, and dissatisfied, and lonely under its ruined old roof? We were all so, even when together and united, as it seemed, following our separate schemes, each as we sat round the table."

"Dear, dreary old place!" cries Beatrix. "Mamma hath never had the heart to go back thither since we left it, when—never mind how many years ago," and she flung back her curls, and looked over her fair shoulder at the mirror superbly, as if she said, "Time, I defy you."

"Yes," said Esmond, who had the art, as she owned, of divining many of her thoughts. "You can afford to look in the glass still; and only be pleased by the truth it tells you. As for me, do you know what my scheme is? I think of asking Frank to give me the Virginia estate King Charles gave our grandfather. (She gave a superb curtsy, as much as to say, 'Our grandfather, indeed! Thank you, Mr. Esmond.') Yes, I know you are thinking of my bar-sinister, and so am I. A man cannot get over it in this country; unless, indeed, he wears it across a king's arms, when 'tis a highly honourable coat; and I am thinking of retiring into the planta-

tions, and building myself a wigwag in the woods, and, perhaps, if I want company, suiting myself with a squaw. We will send your ladyship furs over for the winter; and, when you are old, we'll provide you with tobacco. I am not quite clever enough, or not rogue enough—I know not which—for the old world. I may make a place for myself in the new, which is not so full; and found a family there. When you are a mother yourself, and a great lady, perhaps I shall send you over from the plantation some day a little barbarian that is half Esmond half Mohock, and you will be kind to him for his father's sake, who was, after all, your kinsman; and whom you loved a little."

"What folly you are talking, Harry," says Miss Beatrix, looking with her great eyes.

"'Tis sober earnest," says Esmond. And, indeed, the scheme had been dwelling a good deal in his mind for some time past, and especially since his return home, when he found how hopeless, and even degrading to himself, his passion was. "No," says he, then, "I have tried half a dozen times now. I can bear being away from you well enough; but being with you is intolerable (another low curtsy on Miss Beatrix's part), and I will go. I have enough to buy axes and guns for my men, and beads and blankets for the savages; and I'll go and live amongst them."

The 'little barbarian, half Esmond half Mohock' from the plantations, arrives, and is introduced to Beatrix in the first number of the new tale.

Mr. CHARLES MIDDLETON has in preparation a new *Life of SHELLEY*, the result of much study and investigation, and of great sympathy with the poet's exalted genius. We understand that it will include a republication of the *Queen Mab*, with a large number of MS. emendations in SHELLEY's own handwriting, found at his residence at Marlow, Buckinghamshire. These alterations are for the most part decided improvements on the original, which appears to have been relieved of its youthful redundancies and common-places. They are undoubtedly genuine, and will be regarded with considerable interest.

MONTAIGNE THE ESSAYIST.

Montaigne the Essayist. A Biography. By Bayle St. John. With Illustrations. 2 vols. Chapman and Hall.

MR. BAYLE ST. JOHN, before writing this book, had thoroughly qualified himself to become the biographer of Montaigne. The ground was unoccupied; no *Life of the Essayist* had yet appeared. Fifteen years ago he formed the plan, and every interval of opportunity during that long period has been devoted to its elaboration. In 1844, indeed, a first chapter was published; but Mr. St. John then felt that large and penetrating researches would be necessary before he could hope to complete the biography of Montaigne, one of the princes of French literature, the peer, yet, in some respects, the contrast of Rabelais, who imprinted his influence on Shakespeare and Bacon, on Swift and Sterne, on Pope and Butler, whose writings have been singularly neglected by Englishmen of the modern generations, and whose character has often been strangely misrepresented in France. Sixty years after the discovery of printing, forty after the discovery of America, fifteen after Luther opened his crusade, Montaigne was born. His peculiar education, his friendship for Estienne de la Boétie, his studies at his ancestral château, his *Essays*, his veiled scepticism, and some other broad facts connected with his career, are vaguely known, as Mr. St. John remarks; but hitherto his story has never been adequately told. We have to examine, therefore, the literary title-deeds upon which Mr. St. John founds his claims to rank as the first and only biographer of the great Michel de Montaigne. The *Essays*, he says, are, and must remain, the chief authority. But he has felt it necessary to be extremely cautious in their use, the statements they contain being occasionally invalidated by actual evidence from other sources. These desultory materials it was difficult to collect. No French or English writer had attempted what Mr. St. John has accomplished. Dr. Payen, indeed, had disinterred a mass of testimonies to the events of the *Essayist's* life, and had been followed by Gustave Brunet, Viel-Castel, Jubinal, Grün, and others; Léon Feugère, Guizot, Villemain, Sainte-Beuve, Philarette Chasles, Michelet, and Henri Martin have also been laboriously consulted. But it seems perfectly true that special authors have in many instances created an ideal Montaigne instead of describing the actual one;—that the *Essayist* has been converted by successive critics into a Pascal, a Malebranche, a gentlemanly sceptic, in imitation of Bayle, a scoffer, a Capuchin friar, a Mr. Emerson, a property appertaining to Dr. Payen, and a man after M. Grün's own heart—that is to say, a *Préfet de la Gironde*. But when we note, in Mr. St. John's explanatory chapters, the great range of inquiry and the multiplicity of documents, we are not surprised that upwards of two hundred, and fifty years should have elapsed before a *Life of Montaigne* was competently written. We think it is one of the principal merits of Mr. St. John's volumes that they are pervaded by a spirit of fine discrimination, that the tone is nowhere exaggerated, that all the aspects of the *Essayist's* genius and disposition are characterized with subtle exactitude, and that the author's unconcealed sympathy with his subject never overpowers his endeavour to be accurate and impartial. Thus we have not a eulogy, but that which is infinitely more valuable, an estimate. While Mr. St. John's ardour led him to undertake a pilgrimage to the ancient Château de Montaigne, where he was hospitably treated by Monsieur and Madame de Curial, an instinct of justice follows him even into the library interior—sketched from the admirable painting by Henry Wallis—to the foot of Montaigne's tower, into his garden, and into the castellet of La Boétie, with all of which he has made himself familiar, and which are illustrated in the several woodcuts accompanying the narrative. The portrait of the *Essayist* is admirable—the portrait of a Gascon of Gascons.

The biography must be read in its entirety. From any mere outline the points that confer originality upon the book would infallibly be missed. Mr. St. John, tracing a continuous series of incidents and developments, contrives to present, in each chapter, a cluster of harmonious details; in homage to the patrician ancestry of the *Essayist* he glances, of course, at his family derivation, and, finding it honourable, passes on through the adventures of Pierre Eyquem, to the birth, early education, youthful studies, and college life of Michel, to his first days at Court, and the terrible rebellion of 1548—an episode singularly illustrative of the social state of France in the middle of the sixteenth century. In boyhood, Montaigne professes to

have been an exuberant lover; according to his own account he was almost a Rousseau in the precocity and variety of his passions. Later, he took the taint that corrupted the Court of Francis the First; he gambled, gave way to the wildest licence, made himself ridiculous by the fanciful variety of his costume, and yet was sublimely pure in comparison with the generations that followed. Here is a sketch in Lower-Roman colours:—

It is impossible to paint, except for a secret gallery, copies of the manners of a period when it seems to have been the custom for ladies to overwhelm their lovers, otherwise coy, with presents; when an Italian prince marvelled to receive a young girl in marriage from France uncorrupted; when that strange instrument, so ludicrously exhibited at the Museum of Cluny, was publicly bought at the fair of St. Germain by husbands forced to leave their wives unguarded, until lovers threatened to murder the dealer if he did not decamp; and when men-servants dressed and undressed their noble mistresses, put on their stockings, and handed them their chemises. The records we have of the mingled *naïveté* and coarseness of that age are astonishing. It was firmly believed by many that a magician once, to please Francis I., made the toilettes of all the ladies of that prince's court invisible or transparent. Impassioned lovers, when they bought silk stockings, used to go to their mistresses and beg them to wear them for a few days before they put them on. The court transacted its affairs quite in a family way. Mademoiselle de Limeuil wrote a clever satire when she came to court to attend on the queen, and was whipped with two accomplices for her impertinence. At this time the French ladies had not yet acquired their reputation for elegance and taste in dress. They were taught the art of the toilette by the Queen of Navarre, who carried out the views of her sagacious mother. Indeed, as soon as the influence of Catherine de Medici began to be felt in reality, the corruption of France increased, but became more gorgeous and refined. There was then a perfect fury for adornments and costumes; and, as an historian naively remarks, 'modesty suffered.' I should think so, when at the banquet of Plessis-les-Tours, given by Henry III., all the ladies were dressed as men, in green silk; and at one immediately following, given by the Queen-Mother at Chenonceaux, they served at table almost without any dresses at all!

It is more pleasant to watch the growth of Montaigne's heroic friendship with Etienne de la Boétie, a sentiment that influenced his life, his mind, his works, and became the admiration of his posterity. Such passages are rare, even in the biographies of the most illustrious men. We agree with Mr. St. John, that some account of La Boétie was essential to a Life of Montaigne; certainly no personage mentioned in the history of literature has been more elaborately caricatured; few deserve better to be justly known than the eloquent Sarladais. We shall await with curiosity Dr. Payen's reply to Mr. St. John's chapter, headed 'Two Ingenious Writers contrasted'; if, indeed, a reply be possible. The famous treatise against despotism—which we would gladly see republished in England—is thus estimated:—

I need scarcely enter into any criticism of the literary character of the Treatise. By common consent, it is classed now among the masterpieces of the French language. No one denies it to be full of eloquent amplifications and fiery apostrophes, of sentences, of images, of turns of phraseology that render it a marvel, no matter at what age written. Its influence has been great, especially on the style of republican writers in troublous times.

There are passages in Milton's prose works which would seem written under that inspiration, if Milton, equally imbued with classical literature, and more copious, more enthusiastic, more republican still, did not rather naturally fall into the same tone. We find reminiscences of La Boétie in Rousseau, in Lamennais, in all who have had occasion to attack Monarchy.

On English readers, who neglect to carry back their imaginations three centuries, and into another country, his tone sometimes produces an unpleasant effect. Miled by the name of the office of our chief magistrate, against whom boys of sixteen, less cultivated than La Boétie, perhaps now imitatively declaim, they are offended by this terrific attack on Monarchy; which is, of course, as inapplicable to any part of our institutions as a diatribe against an elector of Hanover would be if applied to an elector of Westminster.

La Boétie was Montaigne's friend. His associates, of course, were numerous. He could not live in Paris without being fascinated by the fame of Ronsard, at whose feet a king had, in a poem, laid a crown; and there are grounds for assuming that Montaigne, introduced by Pibrac, attended the Academy of Poets established by Baif; he was personally acquainted with Tasso, with Catherine de Medici, and with the three kings, her sons, and lived long enough in brilliant circles to be disgusted with them. In 1571, retiring to a learned solitude at his château, he explored all living literature; and taking advantage of this event, his biographer devotes a most interesting chapter to the Château de Montaigne, especially the Tower:—

There are two stories of the tower, which is round and massive like a dungeon, and attached to a square tower, smaller, but of about equal height. On the ground-floor, which Montaigne counts as a story, we find the chapel alluded to in the *Essays*. There we are shown the altar, and an aperture communicating with a recess on the first-floor, where Montaigne, according to local tradition, used sometimes to sit and hear mass; perhaps with a Seneca silly in his hand, or a nightcap on his head. On the summit of the building may still be seen the little chamber where hung a huge bell, which every day, morning and evening, used to ring the Ave Maria with such violence that the tower itself was 'astonished'; yet Montaigne by degrees got accustomed to it, and was no more kept awake than by the sermons of his chaplain—if he had one, and did not rather depend upon some neighbour or chance passenger for spiritual food. Perhaps there was no other chapel for his retainers and farmers in the district.

Here were composed the *Essays*:—

The *Essays* bear many marks of having been written by a country gentleman. The murmur from the farmyard sometimes resounds through Montaigne's sentences; and breezes from orchard, and hill, and valley, fan our cheeks as we flutter his leaves. He is no minute describer: he does not paint the roughnesses of tree bark or count the veins of a leaf; but the masses around cast impressions into his mind which he reproduces. "When I dance, I dance," says he; explaining how each pursuit absorbed him in its turn. "When I slumber, I slumber; and when I stroll alone beneath the branches of a fair orchard, if I allow my thoughts to commune awhile with things remote and foreign, some other while I recollect to my stroll, to the orchard, to the sweetness of the solitude, and to myself." This fair orchard belonged to him and still exists behind the château, gently spread on the eastern slope of the hill. All his illustrations of a similar kind seem gathered under the shadow of his castle, on the day he uses them. They are like fresh-picked flowers, which have not yet felt the warmth of the bosom on which they glow. He finds them in every corner of the valley: "We do not advance in this life, we are carried along, like trifles floating on a stream; now *drifting* gently, now hurrying rapidly, as the water is lively or slow." He is evidently down on the banks of the Dordogne, which indeed, when I last ruffled

its grassy banks, creating an image to flit by me through those solitudes—for our minds are the tombs from which ghosts come out to haunt the world—was here whirling autumn leaves along in a narrow bed, there allowing them to rest in tiny reaches. But he goes further, and notices the progress which the Dordogne is making in eating away its banks, so as to carry off many houses by the foundations. This, and the destruction of his brother's estate in Medoc by the sea, enabled him to understand the supposed disappearance of the Atlantis.

His wife and children supply materials for two chapters; then come household experiences—very characteristic; next, neighbours and friends; then, books in the Essayist's library. It is particularly interesting to trace the studies of such a man, and wander over the fields which were his literary pastures:—

Montaigne, like Shakespeare, and Butler, and Milton, owed debts, even in matters that appear most personal, on every side. Not only classical, but Italian and French poetry, furnished him with colours, which he used without scruple. There have been earnest, self-sacrificing men, who have disdained this process, fancying that they were bound to get their silk out of their own entrails, and that mulberry-trees were made for nothing. But it has been followed by all great national writers, and it is necessary to point out that it was followed especially by Montaigne.

The Essayist read poetry, he says, for pleasure only; but other books for intellectual profit, too, as Plutarch and Seneca. Both these Moralists had that notable convenience for him, that they wrote in a broken manner, and did not require any obstinate reading. The 'Opusculs' of Plutarch, and the 'Epistles' of Seneca, he considered the finest and most profitable part of their writings. Their instruction is the cream of philosophy, and is presented in a simple and pertinent fashion. Plutarch is more uniform and constant; Seneca more undulating and diverse. This one troubles himself, and makes violent efforts, to arm virtue against weakness, fear, and the vicious appetites. The other seems not to estimate the danger so greatly, and disdains to hurry his step and take up a posture of defence. Plutarch has Platonic opinions, gentle and accommodated to Civil Society; the other has Stoical and Epicurean opinions, further removed from common use, but in Montaigne's opinion more adapted to private use, and firmer. "It appears in Seneca, that he gives way a little to the tyranny of the emperors of his time (for I hold it as certain that it was by a forced judgment that he condemned the cause of those generous murderers of Caesar), whilst Plutarch is free everywhere. Seneca is full of points and sallies; Plutarch of things. The former warms us and moves us more; the latter gives more content, and repays us best. He leads, whilst the other pushes." Elsewhere Montaigne says that his *Essays* are built up with the spoils of Plutarch and Seneca. Never was author so scrupulous in acknowledging his general obligations to others as Montaigne. Indeed he far exaggerates them. He rarely, however, gives references, and sometimes melts extracts so completely into his own speculations that we are not aware they are not original. Writers have been accused of plagiarising the *Essays*, who have merely imitated the ancients.

This quotation is but a fragment, separated from an elaborate account of Montaigne's researches among books. To an analysis of the *Essays*, Mr. St. John adds:—

An endeavour to sketch some of the chief features of the *Essays* in a way suited to the undidactic character of this work has led me into a desultory chapter. It would, however, be difficult to describe so varied and complicated a work in a manner more connected. If my account be incomplete, it suggests at any rate the idea of incompleteness; and if an apparent contradiction sometimes occurs, it is because Montaigne is full of contradictions, which can be explained in only one way. "If I paint myself diversely," he says, "it is because I see myself diversely." How imprison a judgment of such a man's productions in a few even and consistent sentences? Those who have endeavoured to do so, have generally been content to take a portion of Montaigne for Montaigne himself. For my part, I feel an uncertainty about some of his doctrines, which I should with regret see displaced by absolute conviction. When a definite critical conviction is formed, it is often put aside and allowed to grow rusty. Doubt keeps the mind active.—Was, then, the Essayist an absolute unbeliever, hiding behind the mask of false piety; or was he half a Christian, half a Pagan—an admirer sometimes of the Apostate Julian, sometimes a worshipper of 'Truth itself'? Both opinions, as the Jesuits say, are probable; and I often feel inclined to lean towards the one, often towards the other. Morally and philosophically, however, it is a venturesome task to judge any man in the last resort; and, after some years' communion with a professed doubter, I have learned to doubt my infallibility as a critic.

We must remember, finally, that Montaigne would not say "I am ignorant," or "I doubt;" for this was affirmation; but adopted as his device the interrogation, *QUE SCAY-JK?*

And with this perpetual question on his lips he passed through life.

The story of his travels is delightful. Montaigne had a rare way of describing his own peregrinations, and his choicest passages intersperse Mr. St. John's narration. The biography contains so much that is new and informing, that it is impossible to do more than indicate its general characteristics. We have described the basis upon which Mr. St. John has built, and the proportions of his work; more, it is not for us to say, except, perhaps, that this is obviously the book upon which he has bestowed the chief thought and labour of fifteen years.

NEW NOVELS.

White Lies. A Story. By Charles Reade. 3 vols. (Trübner and Co.)—A FAVOURITE authoress, we believe, wrote a story entitled *White Lies*. Mr. Reade's belongs to a different class. It is based upon French materials, and sprinkled with French idioms; the names of places and persons are French, while the characters and conversations are such as are generally found in three volumes. Published originally in a penny journal, this tale seems to have been written down to an imaginary level upon which the author supposed that the intellects and sympathies of his readers would range. The idea was a mistake—we believe it was a failure. *White Lies* was not popular in competition with its predecessors in the same series. It is now presented, in a shape more conventional, to the circulating-library reader. The narrative is of the last century, the chief locality is a château in Brittany; the principal personages are Madame de Beaurepaire, her daughters Laure and Josephine, Jacintha a maid, St. Aubin a friend of the family, a hero or two of iron fabric, and lovers proper for each of the damsels. These gentry become involved in misfortunes, and a long history unfolds in order to make them all happy again. In the first volume, many chapters pass without the slightest dramatic action; they are made up almost wholly of description, ejaculation, and dialogue; in the second the narrative moves with more spirit; in the third, although interrupted by large digressive passages, it becomes comparatively interesting. Strictly speaking, however, *White Lies* is excessively bare of incident, and this, we are afraid,

will interfere with its success, since, although Mr. Reade always writes cleverly, it is possible for him to presume too much upon his energy of style, especially when he wanders into dreary declamation about Napoleon the First, and other of his particular hobbies. We think, indeed, that Mr. Reade will write himself down if he continue to publish novels of this kind. Admiring the maniacal style as he may, the reader cannot be expected to tolerate a convulsion of interjections, frothing up in a chapter of challenges, and if an author adopts the pyrotechnic fashion, and scatters phrases in capital letters, and notes of admiration, we are naturally disappointed when all this terrific coruscation of capitals plunges into platitudes. A sentence composed of five words is not necessarily an epigram. It may mean something or nothing, and, whatever it means, may not be very remarkable. We will explain ourselves by quoting two or three examples of the diction which Mr. Reade evidently affects, as he arranges the phrases in separate lines, and ennobles the last in capitals: "For ire and scorn are mighty. And noble blood in a noble heart in a hero. AND LOVE IS A GIANT." After a scene intended to harrow those readers at whom was aimed the lightning-flash of language, "Hating the sunlight and loathing the earth, Norah had fled from the gallows," the novelist fires another train: "There lie the dead corpses of those words on paper; but, oh! my art is powerless to tell you how they were uttered—those words, potent as a king's, that saved a life. They were a cry of terror. They were a cry of reproach. They were a cry of love unfathomable." The entire story is composed in this hysterical, forced, spasmodic manner, and we are sorry to find the name of Mr. Reade, who is so capable a writer, attached to a work altogether unworthy of his reputation,—the more so, in that he seems wilfully to pile up the melodramatic exaggeration as the story progresses. With what absurd and shallow dogmatism he sets history right is shown in the following, which almost fills a chapter: "Forty-eight hours later he was sailing Franceward, with General Bonaparte. That great man dropped Egypt suddenly, very suddenly to those who confound the date of an act with the determination that has preceded it, who knows how long? He dropped Egypt, not—as his small critics fancy—because France and he could not have contrived to hold a corner of Egypt to this day, but because he had discovered he could not make of little Egypt the great stepping-stone he had intended. Take this clue to Napoleon I. The ends of ordinary geniuses were his means. Their goals his stepping-stones. Goes he to Egypt, be sure he goes for Syria and Assyria, at least. If Moscow—little city of huts—thinks he went to Moscow for Moscow, it pays itself too great a compliment, and him too small a one. He went to Moscow for Delhi and Canton. And when I think of this trait in him, with all its mental consequences, I come by my art, with regret, to the conclusion," &c.; the rest is not worth quoting. Mr. Reade seems nervous about his own position, and perpetually endeavours to suggest a comparison between himself and the 'small' people of the world. When France was prostrate 'Heaven sent her a Man.' We might almost fancy, if we believed *White Lies*, that Heaven never sent more than two Men into the world—Napoleon the First and Mr. Charles Reade. We sincerely regret a literary falling-off so unmistakable and so disappointing.

The Handwriting on the Wall. A Story. By Edwin Atherstone, Author of 'The Fall of Nineveh.' 3 vols. (Bentley).—These three volumes contain the history of three days. We need scarcely add that they are based on the vision of Belshazzar at the Feast. Nearly a thousand pages are occupied with the incidents of seventy-two hours. This, it may be anticipated, will detract from the success of Mr. Atherstone's novel. As a writer he possesses considerable faculty. His language is warm, clear, and euphonious; his narrative glitters as it moves, with all the stateliness and pomp of an Assyrian procession; he can paint a picture of splendour, and is more free than the genius of Aladdin in his use of jewels, gold, silk, slabs of cedar, alabaster, slaves in rich costumes, dancers all balm and beauty, and floods of purple wine. But the magnificence of the scene is lost in its extent; the tragedy is in a hundred acts, and before the third day closes the reader might imagine that he had been labouring through a history of the world. Mr. Atherstone, no doubt, is conscientious in his treatment of events and characters, and builds, so far as it is possible, upon a basis of sacred and profane authorities; yet we must add that his book, however unusual its merit, and however interesting in parts, is practically an error, the result of an illusion. Its elaboration is fatiguing beyond endurance, while the style is pitched throughout in far too high a key. Mr. Atherstone will not be brief, and cannot be simple. His portrait of Belshazzar on the throne is a horrible grotesque; his account of the tyrant in the dungeon reeks too hideously with foam and blood not to be repulsive. Nevertheless, *The Handwriting on the Wall*, being by no means a common-place production, may find favour with a special class of readers.

The White House by the Sea. A Love Story. By M. Betham-Edwards. 2 vols. (Smith, Elder, and Co.).—This is a novel of a class now uncommon—it is made up of love, pure and simple, and is in the form of an autobiography. The heroine has two passions, the fate of one being thus shadowed forth:—"I did not faint—I did not utter a sound—but silently, very silently, I drew back from the window, and closing the door of my little room, sat down tearless, marble-like, and subdued. For the iron had entered into my soul, and the gate of my Paradise was shut for ever." The tender-hearted reader, however, must not despair; there is balm in Gilead, for the young girl quaffs a sweet nepenthe of second-love, and lives with her own husband in a place of pleasantness where all her paths are peace. Then returns the false one, base and haggard, and begs to be forgiven, which, being done, he disappears through the shrubbery and embarks for the East, where, we trust, the Sepoys have found him out. *The White House by the Sea* is a tale told, apparently, by a youthful writer, and may be commended to readers old enough to sympathize with its ecstasies of joy and grief, and not too old to believe in heart-blights and breathing passion-flowers.

Frank Millward. A Novel. By W. Kenrick. 2 vols. (Skeet and Co.).—The composition of this story is eccentric. It is a medley of English and German life, social and political opinions, melodramatic fictions and

historical illustrations. The heroic gentlemen are Bayards in dress-coats, and the ladies are Unas and Serenas in something very like crinoline. Wickedness is confounded, and virtue goes to vulgarity for her reward. Taking a very bright and lofty view of the world, Mr. Kenrick marries Lady Fanny St. Clair to Major Meredith, and, through the interest of the Archduke Charles with the Duke of Wellington, obtains a peerage for General Sotherton. Frank Ellerby becomes a member of parliament, but that being insufficient as the apotheosis of so much noble suffering, his father dies, he is made an earl, and the triumph of propriety is complete.

NORTHERN TRAVEL.

Northern Travel: Summer and Winter Pictures of Sweden, Lapland, and Norway. By Bayard Taylor. Sampson Low and Co.

Few travellers are so earnest in their love of travel as Mr. Bayard Taylor. He has sympathy with all the forms of nature, and delights in the crystalline prismatic North no less than in the sultry magnificence of Asia. He has visited Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia, China, Japan, the Indian Islands and continent, and his narratives of adventure have invariably been variously and richly coloured. Among Swedes, Lapps, and Finns, icy seas, pine forests, plains of snow, and low-lying clouds, under a frozen firmament, we glanced at him curiously to know whether his artist instincts would enable him to write as vividly and gracefully of Polar groups and landscapes as of Italian evenings or jewelled sunrises in the East. There are no Taj Mahals, no temple splendours, no rosy Circassian cheeks, no Chinese cities of pavilions, no islets drooping with embowering foliage sprinkled with blossoms, no trees laden with flamingoes, lories, or birds of paradise, no summer mornings with ruby-throated sunbirds glittering in the light, which sparkles again with dew; it was through a portal of dreary white mists that Mr. Bayard Taylor groped his way into the North, with the winter as his companion. Like the hero in the fable, however, he wandered through the cavernous darkness to find himself in a land of enchantment. Instead of Pleiads there were the Northern Lights; there was no hot sky, suffused even at noon with deep colours; but there was the Aurora Borealis, with all its kaleidoscopic changes; a red-roofed Lapland cottage was as picturesque as a Malayan palace; and as for the maidens who dance round the Arctic Circle, their gold-tinted cheeks and early ripened grace might bear comparison with the beautiful luxury of any harem in Persia. Therefore, the American traveller, though he sat in his sledge like a snow figure, frozen as hard as a mummy, was contented with the North, and never yearned for palm shades or fruits of Damascus, or the sight of pretty beavies lighting lamps to float on Indian lakes. Frost crystals, turned into topaz and amethyst by the alchemy of the sun, forest tops almost incandescent in the long unvarying evening glow, strange atmospheric apparitions which seemed to lift the curtains of paradise, green, woody glimpses, and long perspectives of cloud, pink, violet, and lilac, set his imagination at work, and he erected, as he rushed over the snowy earth, strange fabrics, and peopled them with dreams. Under the white Moresque arches of the frosted forest he saw kneeling nuns and warriors, fountains of lighescent crystal, and bediamonded gothic spires. Then emerging out of this ghostly solitude he came among the warm-skinned Lapps or the tender tinted Finns, and their cordial hospitality sent him always to rest well pleased, and not invidiously thinking of the purple light of Syria in contrast with eternal congelations within the Arctic Circle. Within the Arctic Circle, indeed, he reposed not less delicately than after a day of tranquillity in Cairo; for there one of the innocent Finn maidens took him into a bath-house, bathed him, flogged him from head to heel with birch twigs, sent him out to stand a moment in the snow, dried him with warm towels, and committed him to his sleep in perfect health and comfort. Their unsophisticated manners betoken no grossness or immorality among the people who, in the interior, put to shame the ostentatious formalism of the Swedish capital. Mr. Bayard Taylor visited Stockholm twice, and also went to Gottenburg and Copenhagen. At Copenhagen, by the way, he introduced himself to Hans Christian Andersen, with whom, he says, he had 'a delightful hour's chat. One sees the man so plainly in his works, that his readers may almost be said to know him personally.' But the charm of Taylor's book consists in its graphic record of impressions derived from a succession of journeys through the real North, untinged by customs from beyond the Baltic. On the Tana Fjord, with a wind blowing direct from Nova Zembla, he for the first time recoiled from the desolate aspects of the regions that lie round the Pole. There, beyond the most northern point of Europe, even at sunrise, 'there was no golden transfiguration of the dreadful shore; a wan lustre played over the rocks—picture of eternal death.' Yet here dwelt a tribe of fishermen at the bottom of a dismal rocky bight, with only a few tufts of grass on the roofs of their huts, a hopelessly barren hill, half enveloped in snow, in the rear, and in front a sea which the light of the sun never deserts, but which is, nevertheless, as cold as an ice-pit. Beyond, in the Voranger Fjord, commences that belt of solid ice which locks up the harbours of the northern coasts of Russia for six months in the year. The Droutheim and Bergen scenery is in complete contrast with the fjord landscapes, being made up of warmly-tinted waters, cottages, and gardens, deep-green verdure, and pink and purple hills. On the Bergen-stiff the traveller shows us a little damsel in a scarlet bodice, a white chemise, and green petticoat, round, slim, and fair, with eyes 'like the blossoms of the forget-me-not in hue.' From all parts of the North, indeed, he brings us new and characteristic sketches, brilliantly coloured, vigorous, and natural. All that Mr. Bayard Taylor writes has its interest and its value, but we rank this narrative, without exception, as the most agreeable and the most original that he has published.

THE ADVENTURES OF TWO RUSSIAN PRINCESSES.

Captivity of Two Russian Princesses in the Caucasus. Including a Seven Months' Residence in Shamil's Seraglio. Communicated by Themselves, and Translated from the Original Russian by H. Sutherland Edwards. With a Portrait of Shamil, &c. Smith, Elder, and Co.

When the predatory Lesghians invaded Kahetia, in July, 1854, they carried off the Princess Chavchavadzey and the whole of her family, including her

sister-in-law, the Princess Orbeliani. Two Russian officers, a colonel and a captain, volunteered at once to go in search of Shamil's residence among the mountains, and negotiate the liberation of the captives; but their offer was not accepted, and the ladies remained in prison for several months. Carried off in the arms of the Chechnians and Lesghians, they were sometimes placed on horseback, and sometimes compelled to walk; but their route lay towards the high valleys, through a wild and rough country, the robbers dividing into several parties, of which it is necessary to follow only one in order to give an idea of the curious history translated by Mr. Sutherland Edwards. The lovely young Princess Baratoff, the Russian narrator says, was seized simultaneously with the Princess Chavchavadzey by a youthful Chechnian, who tied her arms behind her back, but was courteous enough to leave her rich costume untouched. Beyond the Alazan river the ligature about her arms was removed; but not until she had been drenched by a fall into the water. Nevertheless, her position was better than that of her sister princess, who had been stripped to her last garment by the marauders struggling for her person. She performed the first stage of her journey on foot, and, as she went, her guards urged her on with light lashes on her half-naked body. At length the Murid, her captor, placing her behind him on his horse, bound her hands in his girdle. Travelling in this miserable plight, she afterwards joined the party which was taking away her sister, and the whole tribe had to gallop in headlong flight from an armed Russian party skirmishing at the foot of the mountains. Some of the prisoners were killed as soon as the Russians began to fire, and the unhappy Princess Chavchavadzey, letting her child fall, knew that the entire troop had rushed on trampling over its body. All the way, whenever any of the ladies walked, they were whipped to stimulate their limbs; at length one of them, even when menaced with daggers, could no longer struggle with the fatigue, and fell. After this the mountaineers bore her upon their shoulders. By the time they had reached the Lesghian camp, prior to being conducted to Shamil, they had been almost entirely stripped; their hair was tangled, their skins were torn, their feet bled, and they tottered into the room in which they were to be temporarily confined. Here they were less in the power of the ruffians who had brought them up the hills, and were presented with garments of various quaint descriptions. Thus arrayed, they set forth from Shamil's camp with a strong escort of Lesghians, whose demeanour is represented as invariably insolent and brutal. We are scarcely inclined to believe all that the Russian version sets forth as to the beating and bruising of children by these wild lieges of Shamil. That prince's *aul*, or permanent camp, was reached at length. First the cavalcade passed through a row of palings, there crossed a ditch, and then, entering through gates in a rampart, were met by Shamil's youthful son at the head of a mounted party. The ladies, in spite of their sufferings, were fascinated by the 'wonderful beauty' of this boy. Next, the Princess Chavchavadzey was introduced with many forebodings into the chieftain's seraglio, of which a very minute and interesting account is given, with a plan, sketched by the proud prisoner herself. Within the square she observed, in a balcony, 'a solitary figure of lofty stature, dressed entirely in white.' That was Shamil. Conducted into comfortable apartments, the princesses were undressed by attendants, provided with a change of clothes, joined by several ladies of the harem, feasted with tea, honey, white bread, and delicious Caucasian sweetmeats, and finally left to rest on woollen and flaxen mattresses, with quilts. Next morning, at nine o'clock, breakfast was brought in, consisting of cheese, made from sheep's milk, butter, onions, boiled mutton, and white bread, covered with grease. In the evening Shamil himself came, and told them that they should be safe so long as they attempted to carry on no secret correspondence with their friends. Should they thus offend, he said, he would kill them and their children, as he killed ten Russian officers who were prisoners there, and received a letter baked in a loaf. He hinted also at the fate of a young Russian countess who had presumed to set him at defiance. The narrative that follows, descriptive of the life led by these captive princesses in Shamil's seraglio, is unique in its interest. The chieftain's private room, which they once visited by stealth, contained very rich carpets, a great number of books, and weapons mounted in silver. But, in addition to these sketches, we have some singular anecdotes of the famous mountain prophet, prince, and reformer:—

One evening, when it was late, the Princesses went out into the gallery of their room in order to enjoy the pure air of the moonlit winter night. Aminette went with them, when suddenly Shamil appeared. He was dressed in a white *shoubi*, and he was going from his own room to Aminette's. Perceiving this, and without saying a word, the young girl concealed herself beneath the bench on which the captives were sitting. At last Shamil returned from her apartment, and walked up and down the gallery, as if waiting for her to come out of some of the other rooms; but as she did not appear he locked the door, took out the key, and concealed himself behind one of the corners of his residence.

Thus, for a considerable time, the illustrious saint, the powerful Iman of Chechni and Daghestan, waited freezing in the cold, like an ardent and not particularly saint-like young man, for the sake of a love-meeting with a girl of seventeen. At last, the severity of the night, and the evident utility of waiting any longer, made him return to his own apartments.

During the whole of this scene the position of the captives was most perilous. It can be imagined how dearly they would have had to pay for having helped to conceal the wife of the Iman, more especially as they had been the involuntary witnesses of his amusing nocturnal adventure.

The princess sketches the portrait of a lady among the mountains:—

Karimat's outward appearance also deserves to be mentioned. She was tall, well formed, slender, and graceful, with hazel eyes, a short, straight, and rather sharp nose, a beautifully formed mouth and admirable teeth. She had long, thick, black hair, black eyebrows, long silken eyelashes, and white delicate hands.

Her costume corresponded with her beauty. She wore a long, fine, white chemise, so long that the extremity touched the ground and concealed her feet. Above the chemise she wore an *ahalooh* of dark crimson satin, lined with green *taffetas*, and trimmed with a satin ribbon of the same colour. The slashed sleeve of the *ahalooh* was held together with loops and buttons of gold, which also adorned the front of the body. Beneath the satin sleeves of the *ahalooh* were seen the long white one of the chemise. On her head she wore a small black silk handkerchief, and over that a white muslin veil which hung in folds down her back. Her earrings were in the form

of a crescent, like those of Shamil's wives; but while theirs were of silver and quite plain, hers were of gold and ornamented with precious stones.

When the princesses were liberated after their long captivity, a thrill of joy, according to the Russian writer, was felt by the whole population of Tiflis and the provinces around. We may well believe that they themselves were delighted enough to be safe at home, out of the reach of Lesghian insolence and Chechnian flagellations. The story of their adventures is certainly one of the most curious we have read; it contains the best popular notice yet published on the social polity of Shamil and the manners of his people, and it has been vigorously and gracefully translated by Mr. Edwards.

OUTRAM AND HAVELOCK'S PERSIAN CAMPAIGN.

Outram and Havelock's Persian Campaign. By Captain G. H. Hunt, 78th Highlanders. To which is prefixed a Summary of Persian History, an Account of various Differences between England and Persia, and an Inquiry into the Origin of the late War. By George Townsend. Routledge and Co.

MANY circumstances conduce to make a narrative of the dashing campaign in Persia interesting at the present moment. Names with which the world has recently been dazzled are to be found on the muster-roll of that little army which signalized itself in the valley of the Euphrates; and soldiers of whom fame would never have sufficiently heard but for the terrible crisis in Bengal, displayed a valour and vigour on the banks of the Karoon which have only been exceeded by the greatness of the work they have had to achieve beside the waters of the Jumna and the Ganges. It is, then, in this light that we accept a retrospective view of the careers of Outram and Havelock on the gleaming Persian plains, assisted as we are by the personal experience of Captain Hunt, whose interesting narrative, as an eye-witness and actor in the scenes he describes, is before us.

It was towards the close of 1853 that the English Government determined to invade the territories of the Persian monarch, and effect the restoration of Herat. No sooner was this resolution formed than Sir James Outram was despatched to India to make preparations for a formidable expedition, and so energetic were the movements of that general that, by the end of January, 1856, an army consisting of the 14th King's Light Dragoons, one troop of horse artillery, two field batteries, one thousand Jacob's Scinde horse, 78th Highlanders, 23rd Native Infantry, 26th Native Infantry, and a light battalion composed of ten light companies of different native infantry regiments, encamped outside the walls of Bushire, organized into two divisions under the respective commands of Stalker and Havelock. The enemy were reported to have entrenched themselves at Brásjoon, a place some fifty miles distant, where they were in force, and protected with eighteen guns. On the 3rd of February the little band of heroes was in motion, marching in two lines of contiguous quarter-distance columns. A few only were left behind to guard the camp. The first night twenty-six miles of road were traversed; at four o'clock the following day the march was resumed, and by ten in the evening fourteen miles more were accomplished; the next move was rapid, and by one o'clock the Persian vedettes and reconnoitring parties were made out. A short halt took place to prepare for action, but whilst the regiments were getting into position the entire army in front was described in full retreat, and at a pace which rendered all pursuit to the disgust of the English soldier, hopeless. Only a smart brush with the rear-guard took place, and with this modicum of glory the troops were obliged to content themselves, quietly taking possession of the entrenched camp, destroying stores, exploding the enemy's powder, searching for hidden guns, and burning their carriages and wheels. The return march commenced, and was continued till midnight, when an unexpected sharp rattle of musketry in the rear and the boom of two guns gave life and hope to the desponding soldiery. In less than half an hour the entire force was enveloped in a skirmishing fire; horsemen galloped to and fro, discharging their muskets, yelling like fiends, and dashing close up to the front of the Highlanders; the buglemen artfully sounding the 'Cease fire,' and 'Incline to the left,' which they had been taught by English officers formerly engaged in organizing the Persian army; but nothing could disturb the equanimity with which every charge was received. As the dawn broke the Persian army was seen drawn up in line. Six thousand infantry and two thousand horse stood ready in position to attack or resist, and there seemed every prospect of a glorious field-day. Sooja-ool-Moolk, reputed the best officer in the Persian army, had disposed his men behind two rising mounds, on which the guns were planted; the right rested on the walled village of Koosh-aub and a date-grove, the left on a hamlet, protected by a round fortalice tower, whilst deep nullahs afforded admirable shelter, and were thickly lined with skirmishers. As the English regiments deployed, they advanced rapidly and steadily over the rising ground, the glorious Highlanders in front, the artillery with perfect practice playing upon the Persian batteries, and the cavalry and horse artillery brilliantly dashing at some native squadrons which presented themselves. The charge was but for a moment; as the infantry line moved in rigid rank the enemy lost heart and fled, casting away their arms and accoutrements and even their clothing. The cavalry followed up the advantage, the 3rd Regiment dashed through the hostile battalions and back again with reckless valour. When Forbes, who commanded this regiment, gave the order to charge, he and his adjutant, Moore, placed themselves in front of the 6th troop, which was the one directly opposite the nearest face of the square. Moore, Malcolm, and Spens, came the least thing behind their leader. In spite of steel, fire, and bullets, they tore down upon the nearest face of the devoted square. As they approached, Forbes was shot through the thigh, and Spens's horse was wounded; but, unheeding, they went onward. Daunted by the flashes and the fire and the noise and crackle of the musketry, the younger Moore's horse swerved as they came up; dropping his sword from his hand and letting it hang by the knot at his wrist, he caught up the reins in both hands, screwed his head straight, and then coolly, as if riding at a fence, leaped him in at the square. If any man could be said to have been first, the younger Moore was that man. His horse fell stone dead upon the bayonets; so did his brother's, ridden with equal cou-

rage and determination. The elder Moore—eighteen stone in weight and six feet seven or thereabouts in height—cut his way out on foot. Malcolmson took one foot out of his stirrup when he saw his brother officer down and unarmed (for his sword had been broken to pieces by the fall), and holding on to that, the younger Moore escaped. The barrier once broken, and the entrance once made, in and through poured the avenging troopers. On and over everything they rode, till, getting clear out, they re-formed on the other side, wheeled, and swept back—a second wave of ruin! Of five hundred Persian soldiers of the 1st Regular Regiment who composed the fated square, only twenty escaped to tell the tale of its destruction. The Poonah horse on their side rivalled the gallantry of the 3rd; the rout of the enemy was complete, the horse artillery following in their rear and moving down the fugitives as they thronged hastily along.

The next stroke was levelled against Mohammerah, and in the capture of this place both services were employed. It was a gallant action; and as the boats and steamers moved up to take their positions, we can easily imagine the glow which warmed the soldier's heart at the picturesque sight. The ships decked out, as it were, for a holiday; the river glittering in the early sunlight, its dark, date-fringed banks contrasting most effectively with the white canvas of the Falkland, which had loosened sails to get into close action; the sulky-looking batteries just visible through the grey fleecy clouds which enveloped them; the groups of brightly-dressed horsemen sitting at intervals between the trees where they had their encampment, formed, observes Mr. Hunt, a picture from which even the excitement of the heavy cannonade around could not divert the attention. For three hours the Persian artillerymen stood manfully to their guns, when, the fire slackening, the infantry were moved up and disembarked; a sharp rattling fire of musketry, which cleared the road until the Persian encampments were thoroughly despoiled, being smartly maintained. The line then formed in contiguous quarter-distance columns, a field battery on the right; next came the 78th Highlanders, Havelock's own; after these the 26th Native Infantry, her Majesty's 64th Regiment, the light battalion, the 23rd Bengal Light Infantry, the whole covered by a cloud of skirmishers. The point of attack was the camp to the left rear of the town, where Shah-Zadeh had ranged his cavalry and mounted his guns. Five hundred yards to the right the infantry were drawn up before another entrenchment, or quartered in the batteries and date-groves adjacent. The array was formidable and far outflanked the little body of Europeans who moved to the attack. Without hesitation, however, Sir James Outram gave the word to advance, and the scarlet mass moved like a wall of fire towards the enemy's front. Like a mist, or a mirage, it vanished at their approach. The foe that clustered round the entrenchments but a few minutes before, were nowhere to be seen, and their very existence might have been doubted but for the white tents which were still left standing, and for the army accoutrements, ammunition, band instruments, saddlery, carpets, grain, bedding, and even the dinners which strewed the ground. At the last moment that fine cavalry and those brilliantly dressed troops of infantry had lost heart, and with the chief at their head dispersed into the plains. Such an action—if action it can be called—proved decisive. The British forces moved up to Akwaz, and the Persian army was again seen lying as it were in a trap between our troops and the Backtiri Mountains; but, just as the former were dreaming of another engagement, the news of peace arrived and disappointed their martial spirit. They touched at Bushire on their return to Bombay. At this spot rumours of a mutiny in Bengal were floating about; these rumours were soon confirmed, and, with that rapid energy which always characterized him, Havelock lost no time in setting sail for Calcutta, whilst Outram and Wilson separated to their several destinations to meet again on the plains of the Jumna and Ganges. In Captain Hunt's volume the reader will find a concise outline of the principal events, unfortunately interspersed with very few personal incidents.

NEW EDITIONS AND REPRINTS.

The Bentley Ballads (Bentley) is the title of 'a selection of the choice ballads, songs,' &c., contributed to *Bentley's Miscellany*. The volume is edited by Dr. Doran, who contributes four dashing ballads, seasonable at Christmas. Many varieties of style and as many degrees of merit characterize the collection, which appears in a compact form, and is handsomely printed. It is a companion to a new edition, long called for, of the *Ingoldsby Legends*; or, *Mirth and Marvels* (Bentley).—This is a very acceptable reprint, and will probably bring about an Ingoldsby revival. In the *Illustrated Library*, Mr. Bohn reproduces *Nineveh and its Palaces*, by Joseph Bonomi, revised, augmented, and illustrated with two hundred and

forty engravings. The *Philosophical Library* (H. G. Bohn) contains 'Lectures on the Philosophy of History,' by G. W. F. Hegel, translated from the third German edition by Mr. J. Sibree, M.A. One of Mr. Bohn's most timely and useful publications is Part I. of a new edition, 'revised, corrected, and enlarged,' of Lowndes's well-known and valuable *Bibliographer's Manual of English Literature*, 'containing an account of rare, curious, and useful books published in or relating to Great Britain and Ireland from the invention of printing.' The work will appear in eight parts, or four volumes. Every student of our literature will prize it. A new edition, marked for large popularity, is *The Microscope: its History, Construction, and Application*, by Jabez Hogg, with five hundred engravings (Routledge and Co.).—It is of interest to all classes and ages. We have ceased to count the reprints of *Jules Gérard, the Lion-killer*. Mr. Lay publishes an attractive illustrated edition. The new volume of the *Parlour Library* (Hodgson and Co.) contains the 'Young Widow,' by Mackenzie Daniels, author of the 'Scottish Heiress.' Some monstrous tragedy or comedy is shadowed forth on the illustrated cover.

The Arts.

PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKELL.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

We have seen some incredible conjuring in our time, but never anything equal to that of Professor FRIKELL, 'Physician to the Emperor of Russia,' &c. By the way, a court physician who can dispose of imperial gout by sleight of hand, is surely preferable to all your ordinary or extraordinary opothists! All the traditional sarcasms against the science of homicide fall pointless when your physician is neither a Bolus, nor a Purgon, nor a Globule, while he has the *Pharmacopœia*, literally, at his fingers' ends. There is only one of the many Wizards in the field whom Professor FRIKELL does not infinitely surpass, and that is the Chevalier Bosco. Whether Professor FRIKELL can accomplish such tricks under our very noses as some of our readers may remember Bosco playing with the knives and forks, the cups, the eggs, the bread, and the radishes on a private breakfast-table, we are unable to pronounce. In Bosco's case the marvel of his extempore performances was enhanced by the improvised nature of the materials he used, by the absence of any confederate, or any apparatus, by the fact of the tricks being played in the midst of a small circle, effectually excluding the possibility of all the ordinary means of deception.

From what we have witnessed of Professor FRIKELL's public performances, we dare say he can be equally 'diabolical' in private society. He has now transferred his *Two Hours of Illusion* to the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE, after establishing his reputation (with very little aid from 'notices of the press') at the HAROVER SQUARE ROOMS and at WILLIS'S ROOMS. In the brilliant little *salles* of the ST. JAMES'S the Professor appears to greater advantage, and on Monday last he kept a crowded, but conspicuously select, audience in a state of nervous excitement and bewildered admiration for the space of two hours. Without any vulgar acromantic paraphernalia, dressed in a simple suit of tight-fitting black (rather clovenfooty, perhaps, about the legs, and rather Mephistophelic about the skirts), moving about crisply, airily, and with noiseless feet, announcing his tricks in a birdlike chirp of odds and ends of languages (mostly German), Professor FRIKELL's manner is singularly engaging and amusing, and dashed with a mysterious wildness that would have infallibly consigned him to the flames in the good old orthodox times. But the great charm is the elegance and dexterity of his manipulation. The manner in which he baffles the eye in the plainest and simplest actions, is beyond hyperbole. He takes a hat, stirs it up with his wand, and produces from its unknown recesses, with slow deliberation, fifty silvered metal cups, then fifty eggs; then (tossing the hat over the footlights) a shower, a torrent of little perfumed flags, inscribed with neat and happy mottoes of a mild Epicurean philosophy. He crushes the hat, tears it to pieces, and packs up the remains in brown paper, and hands them to the hatless owner. Presently, whilst the owner of the hat is holding up the parcel of remains, the hat itself is seen dancing a *Resurgam* at the ceiling, and when the parcel is opened, the hat-owner discovers a *bambino* in swaddling-clothes! As the *Daily News* wittily remarks, one is quite humiliated to be unable to do anything with one's own hat but—put it on. All this is done so openly and slowly, that, although you know that the change is effected by sleight of hand, it is impossible to detect a single motion by which the thing is done. The applause which succeeded the accomplishment of each trick was as genuine as the rapt attention during their performance, and certainly never has any conjuror startled his audience more than Professor FRIKELL. He disdains everything but the Impossible. To him the Impossible is alone worthy of attention; and how easy it is to him! He sends home grave men in a state of sulky amazement, women in a state of nervous crispation, and children in a state of irrepressible wonder and delight. Professor WILJALBA FRIKELL deserves to be a hero of the holidays. Happy the Christmas party that possesses him for an evening! Happy the circle in which he is 'at home!' We have only one complaint to make of his public performances, and that is something like a compliment—they are too short!

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.
COLES.—On Thursday, the 3rd inst., at Donyland Lodge, Colechester, the wife of Captain E. G. Coles, 1st Royal Regiment: a son.

HUDSON.—On the 5th inst., at Edghaston, the wife of Thos. Forbes Hudson, Esq.: a daughter.

HODGES.—On the 6th inst., at Hamburg, the wife of H. R. Hodges: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

HODGSON—SHAND.—On the 27th August last, at Christ Church, New Zealand, Christopher George Hodgson, Esq., to Kate, only daughter of John Shand, Esq., of Avon Lodge, Christ Church.

WILLICOMBE—VIZE.—On Tuesday, the 8th inst., at Edghaston, near Birmingham, Henry Willicombe, Esq., of Tunbridge-wells, to Lucy Lockwood, only daughter of the late John Vize, Esq., of Hendon, Middlesex.

DEATHS.

BLAKE.—Killed, in his own lines, at Gwalior, while endeavouring to rally his men to a sense of their duty, on the night of the 14th June, Major M. T. Blake, deservedly and sincerely regretted, even by the deluded rebels.

JACOB.—In camp, at Delhi, on the 14th September, at 10 p.m., of a mortal wound, received in action that morning, when storming and capturing the mutineers' guns, Major

George Ogil Jacob, commanding the Hon. Company's 1st European Bengal Fusiliers.
SCHMID.—On the 1st of October, at Calicut, East Indies, L. B. E. Schmid, D.D., late of Church Missionary Society.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 8.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—OLIVER MORGAN LILLY, and ELIZABETH ELEANOR McDOWALL, Bristol, timber merchants.

BANKRUPTS.—THOMAS BULL, St. Mary Axe, vintner merchant and export oilman—WILLIAM BROOKLY FILLER, Lime-street, merchant—WILLIAM FOLLETT, Bognor, Sussex, bookseller, stationer, and news agent—JOHN BLACKWELL, High-street, Portsmouth, upholsterer and cabinet maker—JEREMIAH HILL, Quiddampton, Salisbury, railway contractor and general shopkeeper—SAMUEL FARRAR, Mincing-lane, indigo and colonial broker—JOHN WRIGHT, Barbican, tobacco and snuff manufacturer—ROBERT HUSTLEY, Hova Villas, Church-street, Cliftonville, Hove, near Brighton, shipowner and coal merchant—WILLIAM SMITH and JOHN NEWBY, Smethwick, Stafford, soap manufacturers—SAMUEL WELTON JOHNSON, Birmingham, printer and eating-house keeper—WILLIAM GRUNDY, Birmingham, laceman and hoister—JOHN SHOARD, Bristol and Keynsham, Somerset, miller and corn factor—WILLIAM SHAW, Tudor-street,

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The mortality of London continued high last week, and even showed a tendency further to increase. In two previous weeks, the deaths were about 1380; in the week that ended last Saturday (December 5th), they rose to 1428. In the ten years 1847-56, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1318. But, as population has increased, the average for comparison must be raised proportionally to the increase, in which case it will become 1450. Last week, the births of 938 boys and 874 girls, in all 1812 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1504.—From the *Registrar-General's Weekly Return*.

THE ELECTIONS.—Mr. Bagshaw has been returned for Harwich by a majority of 94 over Mr. Arceledne.—Mr. Deedes was elected for East Kent on Thursday, without opposition.—Mr. Ewing has been elected for Paisley by a large majority over Mr. Haly.

THE COUNTESS DOWAGER OF MORLEY died at Saltram, Devonshire, on Monday night.

Sheffield, oil and linned cake dealer—MILES LAMBERT, Liverpool, tailor and draper—HUGH PICKERING, Spring Garden Mill, Burnley, brushmaker—ANDREW OGIL, JAMES ROBINSON, and WILLIAM OGIL, Preston, engineers, iron-founders, and iron shipbuilders—HUGH PICKERING, JOHN PICKERING, RICHARD CATON PICKERING, and JOHN WILSON PICKERING, Burnley, Lancashire, cotton spinners—THOMAS ROSS, West Hartlepool, sailmaker.
SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. MACDONALD, Glasgow, furrier—B. MACMILLAN, Inverness, coal merchant—J. STEWART, Glasgow, provision dealer—G. W. CRAWFORD, Edinburgh, writer.

Friday, December 11.

BANKRUPTS.—THOMAS TYRRELL, Tonbridge, Kent, factor—GEORGE HAMIT, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire, machine maker—GEORGE CAMM, Sheffield, grocer—GEORGE MORLEY, Hope, Derbyshire, farmer—THOMAS WOOLF, Wellington-street, Woolwich, corn chandler—WILLIAM BAKER and LUCY S. BAKER, Church-street, Camberwell, milliners—THOMAS M. PRITCHARD and THOMAS HINGINSON, Liverpool, rice merchants—THOMAS E. PICKFORD, Manchester, commission agent—EDWARD HOBSON, Well-street, South Hackney, grocer—CHARLES MIDDLETON, Upper North-street, Poplar, builder—THOMAS ROBINSON, Manchester, ironmonger—SAMUEL RHODES and JOHN ARMSTRONG, Tintwistle, cotton manufacturers—JAMES LAW, Halifax, shoemaker—DAVID ROBERTS, Halifax, spinner—EDWARD JONES, Welshfrankton, timber merchant—RUFERT ALPORT, Stafford, butcher—JOHN V. GRASS, Walsall, Staffordshire, timber merchant—ELIZABETH SWINNETT, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.
SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—JAMES STARK, Pollock-shaws, grocer—JOHN DOTT, Kingussie, joiner—ROBERT STEWART and SON, Glasgow, merchants—WILLIAM BENNETT, Perth, fisher—JAMES WATSON, Glasgow, painter—WILLIAM BOYACK, Dundee, flaxspinner—ALEXANDER LEASE, Dundee, merchant—DUNCAN, WEIR and CO., Greenock, merchants—BACHAP YUTIL, and Co., Springbank Print-works, Neilston, calico printers—JAMES DONALD and BONS, Dundee, flaxspinners and manufacturers.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, December 11.

The settlement of the December Consol account in the Stock Exchange took place on Monday. Contangoes were heavy, and ranged from 11-16 to 13-16; for account; the event was marked by seven failures in the 'House,' none, however, of considerable importance. Consols which closed on Monday and Tuesday, at 92 $\frac{1}{2}$, cum *div* for January account, opened firmly on Wednesday, and closed at 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, ex *div*, or an advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Yesterday they opened at a slight improvement, steadily rose during the day, finally closing at 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, ex *div*, for January account, and opened this morning at 91 $\frac{1}{2}$; they have been done at 92 and 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, and close at 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, for account.

Money yesterday was freely offered in the Stock Exchange at from 5 to 8 per cent., according to the length of loan. On that day meetings of the creditors of Messrs. Sanderson, Sandeman, and Co., and Messrs. Broadwood and Barclay were held, and no fear was entertained that the former firm would not ultimately fulfil all their obligations, but in the latter case a dividend of only 5 per cent. appeared probable.

Blackburn, 9, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$; Caledonian, 75, 77 $\frac{1}{2}$; Chester and Holyhead, 30, 32; Eastern Counties, 54, 55; Great Northern, 63, 65; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 97, 99; Great Western, 50, 51 $\frac{1}{2}$; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 99 $\frac{1}{2}$, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and Blackwall, 54, 55; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 102, 103; London and North-Western, 53, 54; London and South-Western, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$, 90 $\frac{1}{2}$; Midland, 85, 86 $\frac{1}{2}$; North-Eastern (Berwick), 92, 93; South-Eastern (Dover), 63 $\frac{1}{2}$, 64 $\frac{1}{2}$; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 51, 52; Dutch Rhineish, 6, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 23 $\frac{1}{2}$, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Central of France,; Great Luxembourg, 51, 52; Northern of France, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$, 35 $\frac{1}{2}$; Paris and Lyons, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$; Royal Danish, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$; Royal Swedish, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; Sambre and Meuse, 6, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, December 11.

The revival of prices, which was noted last week, has altogether subsided, and Wheat, on the spot and for cargoes, is now lower than the lowest point hitherto reached, though the exportation from France has been very limited. With large supplies of Barley and Oats, the prices of both are now much lower than they have been for years past.

Soft St. Petersburg is not worth more than 42s. per 402 lbs. and a slow sale. Louvain of fine quality, which would have brought 54s. on Monday, only sells at 52s. to-day. A cargo of Taganrog Ghirka sold at 42s. per 402 lbs., cost, freight, and insurance. A cargo of Ibrai Maize, per "Madonna del Carmine," has been taken at 30s. 6d. per 450 lbs. by a bold buyer. Archangel Oats sold as low as 16s. 3d., and 52 lbs. Danish Barley at 27s. 6d.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	218	217	217	218	219	219
3 per Cent. Red.....	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Con. An.	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent. An.	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91
New 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.	77	77	77	77	77	77
Long Ann. 1860.....	15	15	15	15	15	2
India Stock.....	217	217	217	217	217	217
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	35 d	35 d	35 d	35 d	35 d	35 d
Ditto, under £1000.....	36 d	36 d	36 d	36 d	36 d	36 d
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	par	par	1 p	2 d	2 p	par
Ditto, £500.....	par	par	2 p	2 p	2 p	2 p
Ditto, £200.....	2 p	2 p	2 p	2 p	2 p	1 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING
(TUESDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	96	Portuguese 4 per Cents.
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	57	Russian Bonds, 5 per	...
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	...	Cents.....	...
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents.....	96
Dutch 4 per Cents.....	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	Spanish.....	25 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	90	Spanish Committee Cer-	...
Equador Bonds.....	124	of Coup. not fur.	...
Mexican Account.....	124	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	92
Peruvian 4 per Cents.....	124	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	100
Portuguese 3 per Cents.....	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	Venezuela 4 per Cents.....	...

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.— M. JULLIEN'S CLASSICAL CONCERTS.

POSITIVELY THE LAST WEEK. The splendid decorations of the Bal Masqué continued. Madlle. Jetty Treffs and M. Bementy.

The highly successful Indian Quadrille, and General Haselock's Grand Triumphal March, every Evening during the Week.
Promenade, 1s.; Dress Circle, 2s. 6d.; Private Boxes, 10s. 6d. and upwards. Can be secured at the Box-office at the Theatre, where prospectuses, with full particulars, may be obtained; at the principal Libraries, and at Julien and Co's., 214, Regent-street.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—M JULLIEN'S GRAND BAL MASQUE.

In consequence of the great success of the Bal Masqué, M. Julien will give a SECOND, and positively the last this season, at the end of the second series of Concerts, on Monday, December 21.

The Orchestra will comprise One Hundred and Ten Musicians.

Conductor, M. JULLIEN.

Tickets for the Bal, 10s. 6d. The prices of admission for Spectators (for whom the audience part of the Theatre will be set apart), will be—Dress Circle, 5s.; Gallery Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Gallery, 1s. 6d.; Private Boxes from 3s. 3s., and upwards; to be had at the Box-office at the Theatre; and at Julien and Co's., 214, Regent-street.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.— M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL BENEFIT

will take place on Wednesday next, December 16th, being positively the last night but three of the Season. The Programme will include the most successful pieces given during the Season.

Applications to be made at the Box Office at the Theatre, and at Julien and Co., 214, Regent-street.

PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKEL.— ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

Every Evening at 8, and Saturday Afternoons at 3. New and original Entertainment of PHYSICAL AND NATURAL MAGIC, without the aid of any Apparatus. Stalls, 5s.; Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Private Boxes Two Guineas; One Guinea and a half; and One Guinea. Places to be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS, Polygraphic Hall, Strand.—Monday, the 13rd Entertainment in London.

Open every evening at 8, and on Saturday a Morning Entertainment, commencing at 3. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Seats can be had at Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Hall.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY OF SCIENCE, 3, Tichborne-street, facing the Hay-

market. This Institution presents entirely new features and offers unprecedented attractions. Its object is to combine Natural with EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE, and to show the connexion between the functions of the Human body and the great Forces of the Universe. Amongst the numerous novelties now added may be named the large Oxhydrogen Microscope, GUENAL'S APPAREIL URANOGRAPHIQUE (now first introduced). The latest improvements in Electric Attraction Apparatus (including HUMPHREY'S MAGNETICALLY INDUCED COIL, Illustrations of Microscopic Anatomy, Dissolving Views of Physiological Phenomena, upon a principle never before attempted, &c. Lectures are delivered daily on the various branches of Science, and their application to the Human Frame, the Laws of Life, and the Preservation of Health, by Dr. Kahn and Dr. Scudamore. The Institution is illuminated outside with DU BOUSQUE'S MAGNIFICENT ELECTRIC LIGHT. Open (for Gentlemen only) from 12 till 5, and from 7 till 10 o'clock. Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling. Illustrated Catalogues, Sixpence. Programmes and Lectures gratis on application, or post free for Six Stamps.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY.

And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.
Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

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LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL,

Prescribed by the most eminent Medical Practitioners as the most speedy and effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

Contains iodine, phosphate of lime, volatile fatty acids—in short, all the most essential curative properties—in much larger quantities than the Pale Oil manufactured in Great Britain and Newfoundland, mainly deprived of these by their mode of preparation.

The well-merited celebrity of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is attested by its extensive use in France, Germany, Russia, Holland, and Belgium, by numerous spontaneous testimonials from distinguished members of the Faculty and scientific chemists of European reputation, and since its introduction into this country, by the marked success with which it has been prescribed by the Medical Profession.

In innumerable cases, where other kinds of Cod Liver Oil had been taken with little or no benefit, it has produced almost immediate relief, arrested disease, and restored health.

Opinion of C. RADCLIFFE HALL, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Physician to the Hospital for Consumption, Turgoyne, Author of "Essays on Pulmonary Tubercle," &c. &c.

"I have no hesitation in saying that I generally prefer your Cod Liver Oil for the following reasons:—I have found it to agree better with the digestive organs, especially in those patients who consider themselves to be bilious; it seldom causes nausea or eructation; it is more palatable to most patients than the other kinds of Cod Liver Oil; it is stronger, and consequently a smaller dose is sufficient."

Sold only in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE, by most respectable Chemists in the country. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPOT.

ANSAR, HARBOLD, & CO., 77, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., DR. DE JONGH'S BRITISH CONSIGNERS.
By whom the Oil is daily forwarded to all parts of the Metropolis.

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HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are

now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 54, Pall-mall.
Dec, 1857.

ZUTOC CIGARS! at Goodrich's Cigar, To-

bacco, and Snuff Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Boxes containing 14 very fine Zutoc Cigars for 3s.; post free, six stamps extra; 1b. boxes, containing 105, 21s. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

SISAL CIGARS! SISAL CIGARS! at

Goodrich's Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Box, containing 14, for 1s. 6d.; post free, six stamps extra; 1b. boxes, containing 105, 12s. None are genuine, unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

EPSS'S COCOA.—This excellent preparation

is supplied in lb. and 4 lb. packets, 1s. 6d. and 1s. 1d. A tin canister, containing 74 lb., 11s. 6d.—JAMES EPSS, Homoeopathic Chemist, 170, Piccadilly; 82, Old Broad-street, City; and 112, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

IMPORTANT TO EVERY MAN WHO KEEPS

A HORSE, COW, SHEEP, or PIG.—THORLEY'S FOOD for CATTLE, as used in Her Majesty's stables; also on his Royal Highness the Prince Consort's farm, Windsor. Sold in casks containing 448 feeds (with measure enclosed), price 50s. per cask; carriage paid to any railway station in the United Kingdom. For horses it is indispensable in promoting and sustaining all the animal functions in health and vigour. For milch cows it is invaluable, increasing the quantity and improving the quality of milk. For beasts nothing can compare with it for feeding quickly. For sheep and pigs its effect in one month will exceed all expectation.

pamphlet, containing testimonials from Mr. Brebner, steward to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort; Mr. James Fisher, farm manager to her Grace the Duchess of Athole; Sir David Canyngham, Bart.; Sir John Cathcart, Bart.; Sir John Ribton, Bart.; and some of the leading agriculturists of the day, may be had, post free, on application to the inventor and sole proprietor, JOSEPH THORLEY, 77, Newgate-street, London; 115, High-street, Havre. Post-office orders to be made payable at the General Post-office.

MAJOR'S IMPROVEMENTS IN VETERINARY SCIENCE.

"If Progress is daily made in Medical Science by those whose duty it is to study the diseases to which the human flesh is heir, it would seem that improvements in Veterinary art quite keep pace with it, as is manifest on a visit to the well-known Horse Infirmary of Mr. Major, in Cockspur-street. Here incipient and chronic lameness is discovered and cured with a facility truly astonishing, while the efficacy of his remedies, and the quickness of their action, appear to have revolutionised the whole system of flogging and blistering. Among the most recent proofs of the cure of spavins by Mr. Major, we may mention Cannobie, the winner of the Metropolitan, and second favourite for the Derby, and who is now as sound as his friends and backers could desire. And by the advertisement of Mr. Major's pamphlet in another column, we perceive that cases of other dangerous curable are set forth, which place him at the head of the Veterinary art in London."—Globe, May 10, 1856.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so detrimental in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hip, being sent to the Manufacturer, JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

Price of a single truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.—Postage, 1s.

Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d.—Postage is 4s.

Unilateral Truss, 42s. and 52s. 6d.—Postage is 10s.

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ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c.,

for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking.

Price from 7s. 6d. to 10s. each.—Postage, 6d.

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Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Faculté de Médecine de Paris and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. Triese-mar, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. Triese-mar, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. Triese-mar, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Triese-mar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all unwholesome qualities. They may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 1s. free by post 1s. 6d. extra. Any packet of Triese-mar, for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Triese-mar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all unwholesome qualities. They may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 1s. free by post 1s. 6d. extra. Any packet of Triese-mar, for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Triese-mar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all unwholesome qualities. They may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 1s. free by post 1s. 6d. extra. 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SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND POUNDS.
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The Amount paid to the Representatives of Deceased
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A Division of Profits is made every Three Years, the
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Loans of any amount, from 20*l*., on real and other secu-
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